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THE TIMES

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orway: Coming to grips with oil wealth, page 12

Compromise plan to end pay beds sets no time limits

e British Medical Association ıncil meets on Friday to con- er whether to end the hospital tors' sanctions in the light of a peace formula, published erday after 12 days of secret s between the Government and tors' representatives (full terms, e 2). Under the proposals, of the 4,000 private beds in h service hospitals would be phased out within six months of the Government's planned legislation becoming law. An independent board of five members would phase out the remaining beds, with no set time limits. Private beds would remain only where there was a reasonable demand in the area for private medicine and, when they are abolished, there must be adequate alternatives.

upervision by independent board

hn Roper
al Reporter

mpromise proposals on hasing out of private beds the National Health Ser- vill be agreed by the Gov- nt if consultants end the trial action they begun 15 ago.

proposals, published last arose from secret talks, ding over 12 days, in Lord Goodman, called in r Wilson, took a signifi- part.

consultants took indus- action in opposition to the rnment's proposals, an- ced in the Queen's Speech, eparate private practice the health service.

compromise centres on an endent board, which, after first thousand pay beds been phased out of the service, would supervise happens to the remaining thousand. The board have an independent nan, two members of the al profession acceptable and two members ap- d after consultation with health service staff.

Derek Stevenson, secre- of the British Medical ation, said last night that rofession would continue ose legislation that it con- d interfered with the of individual patients and eedom of the profession. proposals, he said, nted to provide some sub- to the Government's re- d guarantee that private e outside the health ser- ould be maintained.

Central Committee for al Medical Services, first recommended that tants should treat only gency cases, in protest t the Government's pro- , will meet to consider ew formula on Thursday. re will be a special meet- f the BMA Council on y, at which a decision will be taken whether to lift the sanctions.

If agreed, that, in Dr Stevenson's opinion, would end the "emergency treatment only" system and halt the collection of undated resignations from the National Health Service.

Dr Stevenson said that in his opinion no beds could be phased out for about 18 months.

In a letter to Mr Walpole Lewin, chairman of the BMA council, released last night, the Prime Minister said he appreciated that the decision on acceptance of the proposals rested with the professions, but he was reassured by the views expressed to him that the proposals were capable of resolving the issue.

He added: "I fully appreciate that your willingness to submit these proposals does not mean that you and your colleagues have in any way withdrawn your opposition to the phasing out of private practice and that you will reserve your right to try to influence Parliament's decision on the principle of phasing out."

In a statement to the Commons yesterday, Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, said the criteria under which pay beds and facilities would be phased out in the proposed legislation would be the reasonable availability of alternative facilities for private practice. "It is accepted that there are some pay beds and facilities which on this basis, and on the basis of their underuse, could be phased out without delay," she added.

There would be consultation with the professions but "in the meantime the Government needs to be satisfied that developments in the private sector do not significantly endanger the service the NHS gives to its patients and will enter into consultation with the medical profession as to how this can be achieved by voluntary means.

"The consultations would cover the point as to whether any reserve powers that it proved necessary to take in the legislation, might be exercised by the independent board."

Mrs Castle said the Government believed the smooth phasing out of pay beds would be facilitated if, pending their withdrawal, a system of common waiting lists were to be introduced. The professions had expressed reservations, but it was proposed that the legislation should instruct the board to examine the proposal and make recommendations to the Secretaries of State within six months of Royal Assent to the Bill.

The new formula, Mrs Castle added, "will ensure that the policy of separation is achieved, but in a way which should allay the fears of the medical profession, and provide an enduring settlement".

Cohse welcome: A spokesman for the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) said last night: "We welcome the abolition of a thousand beds, which in our view should be attained by January, 1977 (the Press Association reports).

"We welcome the commitment to legislation this session, although I must admit to some reservations on how the machinery will operate and how fast it will be able to implement the Government's policy. At least one of the board members must in our view be a trade unionist."

The S. ialist Medical Association sent a telegram to the Prime Minister condemning the scheme. It said: "Labour Party policy is to separate all private beds and this must be done on one date. The SMA will support all other health workers in any action to ensure that the pay beds go at the earliest possible moment."

Terms of agreement, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 4

S Africans kill 61 guerrillas in one battle

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Dec 15

South African troops have killed 61 African guerrillas in a single engagement for the loss of three of their own men, according to an announcement by defence headquarters in Pretoria today. It is by far the biggest clash that has occurred so far in the hit and run border war between South African troops and guerrilla infiltrators.

The announcement said that the clash occurred in the operational area, taken to mean somewhere on the South-West African border running from the eastern Caprivi Strip to the South Atlantic coast. But it gave no details apart from identifying the three South Africans killed.

The announcement seems certain to have serious diplomatic and political implications for South Africa. Diplomatically, it will register that South Africa is beginning to become engaged in a serious border war.

The announcement today did not identify "the enemy" but it can be assumed they were guerrillas of the South-West African People's Organization (Swapo) who have been operating with increasing intensity from bases in Zambia and latterly in Southern Angola.

South Africa recently admitted that it is operating a "hot pursuit" policy against guerrilla bases, and the casualty figures disclosed today suggest that its forces located a guerrilla base and exterminated it.

On the domestic front, it will bring home to South Africans the intensity of the campaign and emphasize that the country's young men, now being called up for 12 months' National Service, will have to be prepared for a lot more than exercises.

The South Africans have given no figures of how many men, on either side, were wounded, but there must have been some. The English language press in South Africa has complained bitterly over the last few weeks that the public is being starved of information about what is going on in the border zone. The bald announcement from defence headquarters lends credibility to these complaints.

South Africa admits its troops have crossed the southern Angola border from South-West Africa to guard the Cunene River hydro-electric plant about 15 miles inside Angola, but denies further involvement. At the same time it is known that Swapo, with possible backing from the Unita movement in Angola, is intensifying its attacks on South-West Africa.

Dr Kissinger with his mother and father yesterday after being honoured with a medal in Fürth, Bavaria, the town of his birth. His family fled from Fürth 37 years ago.

£2,000m rise expected in Budget deficit

By Tim Congdon
Economics Staff

Official figures confirm that the Government's budget deficit is almost certain to exceed initial estimates by about £2,000m.

The public sector borrowing requirement—the total borrowing of the central government, local authorities and public corporations amounted to £2,829m in the first quarter of the present financial year and to £2,762m in the second quarter, according to a series of figures published for the first time yesterday by the Central Statistical Office.

That brings borrowing so far to much more than half the £9,055m planned for the whole year. But the latest figures will not add to the considerable anxiety widely expressed in recent months about the Government's finances.

Most private forecasters studying the behaviour of public spending and tax revenue have believed until lately that a borrowing requirement of £12,000m was in prospect.

This estimate now seems on the high side and most observers are instead thinking that a figure between £10,500m and £11,500m would be more accurate.

The *size* of the public sector borrowing requirement has again become a subject of political debate. It has been argued that the scale of the Government's borrowing needs at present is such that it will be difficult for the authorities to keep control over the money supply and that, therefore, the indirect result might be a further acceleration of inflation.

The new set of figures published by the CSO is an important change in official economic statistics and reflects the increasing interest in the Government's finances.

Although public sector borrowing requirement statistics have long been published by the Government, yesterday was the first occasion that they have been published after seasonal adjustment.

In other words, they show what the Government's borrowing needs would have been in a quarter, apart from purely seasonal fluctuations in spending and revenue.

This is much more than a technical change in the method of presentation because it enables the public to see during the financial year if the Government's targets are being met.

The official view had been that it was pointless for those outside the Government machine to monitor the course of outgoings and receipts during the year because the flows of money were too large and too variable for outsiders to be able to draw reliable conclusions.

It now seems to have been decided that seasonally adjusted figures can make a useful contribution to public discussion.

It would, however, be a mistake to assume that the borrowing requirement for the whole year will be exactly twice the seasonally adjusted borrowing requirement in the first half. A number of qualifications have to be made if the figures are to be interpreted properly.

It is understood that government spending tended to be "bunched" in the first half of the year, which implies that the borrowing requirement may have been erratically high. On the other hand, the recession has lowered the level of tax receipts and this effect should be more pronounced in the second half of the year than the first.

One encouraging sign is that local authority borrowing was much less in the second quarter of the financial year than had been generally expected.

Labour abstention threat on Chrysler vote

By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

The Government faces its first big trial of confidence with its supporters today when a statement is to be made on the rescue operation of Chrysler plants in the United Kingdom. It became clear last night that the Shadow Cabinet would oppose the Government's policy for bailing out Chrysler.

Threats were being made that some Labour backbenchers would abstain in the vote tonight if they were not satisfied with the announcement of Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry. These threats were not a reaction from recalcitrant left-wing *Tribune* group members but from those who are associated with the centre-right Manifesto Group inside the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Although Mr Wilson declined to receive a deputation from Manifesto Group members last night it was disclosed that they had a heated meeting with Mr Mellish, the Government Chief Whip. When Mr Mellish advised them that if they pursued their attitude they could bring down the Government he was told that they would not accept his hectoring tone and would not be treated in that way.

The main strand arising from various backbench meetings yesterday is that unless Mr Varley guarantees that there will be public accountability of the money the Government is to pour into Chrysler there will be serious embarrassment from the back benches.

The Manifesto Group is divided on the issue. It is to meet tonight to decide whether at least some members will abstain to demonstrate their opposition to the Government's policy. They argue that either the Government's handling of Chrysler is a departure from the general election manifesto (on the ground of equity shareholdings) or a serious undermining of the Chequers approach to industrial strategy (the position taken by Mr Varley).

The *Tribune* group last night supported the first argument by tabling a motion reminding the Government of the Labour Party's commitment to the idea of gaining a public equity stake in return for money put into private companies.

In the Shadow Cabinet a spokesman described the government operation as "propping up a one-legged lame duck that was walking downhill".

The Shadow Cabinet has discussed the threatened Chrysler withdrawal at several meetings. It takes the view that the Government would have done better to allow a possible shutdown and spend state funds on social security benefits to assist the unemployed and to give special investment assistance and incentives to localities affected.

One suggested incentive would be tax rebates to companies that increased their investment in the areas concerned.

Talks go on: The broad outline of the Chrysler UK rescue package was still being discussed yesterday between the Chrysler UK management and Whitehall officials, and there were indications that no details had been worked out on the financial arrangements (our Business News Staff writes).

Mr Varley told the Commons that detailed heads of agreement were still being discussed and were not expected to be completed until later in the day.

His remark suggests that the contractual arrangements for financing the rescue still have to be worked out.

It is not clear what part Finance for Industry, the City-backed organization, will play in the new structure of Chrysler UK. It is said to be lending £35m of working capital to Chrysler UK, jointly guaranteed by the Government and the Chrysler Corporation.

TUC meeting: The Government made clear yesterday its determination to resolve the Chrysler crisis without undue trade union influence (Our Labour Editor writes). Mr Varley, who, with other ministers, met senior TUC leaders before answering a parliamentary question on the Government's rescue plan, gave the unions no more than an outline of the Government's proposals.

The minister is to meet union leaders and shop stewards from all the Chrysler factories to explain the Government measures.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Edelman criticism in letter

A few hours before he died, Mr Maurice Edelman, Labour MP for Coventry, North-west, criticized the Government's rescue plan for the Chrysler UK car company.

In a letter to *The Times*, dated December 13, Mr Edelman, who died the next day, said the Government had been "taken for a ride by the Chrysler Corporation".

He wrote that the 25,000 jobs involved must be saved and that the separatist tendencies, which would have been gravely accentuated if *Linwood* had been turned into a depressed area, must be frustrated.

Chrysler had bought into the old Rootes company and obtained a dominant holding. In a well-known letter of intent to Mr Benn, Minister of Technology at the time, Chrysler had guaranteed that it would not take any action that would disadvantage the British company in favour of other Chrysler subsidiaries.

Letters, page 13

Ian remanded in esley Whittle case

Arthur Osman
stle-under-Lyme

re was booing from 250 people outside the rates' court at stle-under-Lyme, Staf- ire, yesterday when d Neilson, ged 39, a self- yed joiner, was charged the murder of Miss Les- Whittle at Kidsgrove ear- his year. Mr Neilson, of efield Avenue, Thorn- Bradford, was remanded stody to appear again Kidsgrove magistrates iday.

was wearing a rust- ed cardigan, light rs, white shirt and well- s. Reporting restrictions not lifted. When asked if ad anything to say in t to the charge he rep- in a firm, deep voice: guilty, sir."

was told that arrange- would be made for him legally represented. He been driven from the main police station in Newcastle in a convoy of five cars.

The court room was crowded mainly with senior police officers and press representatives. Only a few other people were allowed in. Within a few seconds of being taken from court Mr Neilson, again covered with a car rug, was driven away in convoy to intensified jeers and booing.

Earlier, at the last conference at Kidsgrove, Commander John Morrison of Scotland Yard and other officers, thanked the dozens of clerks and typists who had manned the incident room there and assembled thousands of statements and exhibits. Members of the public approached Mr Morrison in the street to shake his hand and thank him.

Mr Morrison said "Mr Neilson will face other serious charges at a later date in connexion with offences at post offices in other parts of the country".

Mediation stalemate in Amsterdam siege

From Our Correspondent
Amsterdam, Dec 15

The Rev Semual Metiari, the South Moluccan clergyman, who announced on Friday that he would no longer act as mediator in the Amsterdam siege of the Indonesian consulate where 25 hostages have been held for 12 days, returned to Amsterdam today for a talk to the authorities.

He neither met nor telephoned the gunmen, who have been asking to talk to him since Friday afternoon, but left immediately for an unknown destination.

Mr Metiari is known to be angry about the Dutch hard line on making even the slightest of political concessions. After his talk it was announced that both he and the city authorities had "gone away to think about what had been said". No appointment for a further meeting was made.

Train services were back to normal in the north of the Netherlands today after South Moluccan gunmen ended their siege there. The hijacked train which blocked the line to the northern provincial capital, Groningen, for 13 days was towed away during the night, filthy but basically undamaged. It was taken to sidings near Zwolle, where police and security services will go through it with a fine toothcomb. Three passengers were killed during the siege.

The evidence the police collect from the train will be used at the trials of the six young gunmen who are at detention centres spread across the country, for fear of attempts by their compatriots to release them. In the eyes of the majority of the South Moluccan community the gunmen are heroes, young lions who have sacrificed their freedom for the cause of the republican dream.

Moluccan leaders snubbed, page 7

g affects ıds l airports

ıds and air services were affected by fog and ice day. The RAC said the was the worst since the on "smog" of the 1950s.

queue of traffic built up e M4 at one time for the iles between Reading and h. Visibility was down to rds in places, the AA said. ter motorways were simi- affected by fog, freezing arts, which covered the -east and Midlands.

Kent, 90 vehicles were in- d in two separate collisions e A2 near Eltham, London. ty-one people were taken spital, two seriously ill. ar Chelmsford the A12 was d after a crash involving hicles.

ne marrow ts fail

ctors at Westminster Hos- London, have found that Malo Ioane, aged 23, a ban, is not suitable as a marrow donor for Anthony n, aged four, who has a deficiency disease.

r Ioane, a trainee medical nician, who was given a free t to London by British Air- , underwent tissue-typing for six days.

M Giscard hopeful over energy talks

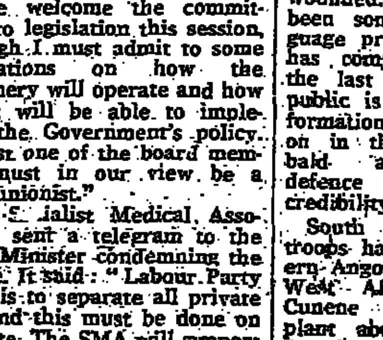
President Giscard d'Estaing sees ground for optimism in the fact that the energy conference, which he is opening in Paris today, is being held at all. The conference is not expected by the French to produce a new world economic order but to initiate a continuing dialogue that would avert any repetition of the situation of two years ago, when a four fold increase in oil prices took the industrialized countries by surprise Page 7

Delinquency view is questioned

The main reason for sending delinquents to a residential institution, that it reduces delinquency, is undermined by a Home Office report, published today. It says it is not enough to take a boy temporarily out of the environment that encourages him to commit crime and attempt to modify his behaviour in an artificial setting Page 3

Smith-Nkomo talks

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the African nationalist leader met for an hour in Salisbury. More meetings are expected Page 8



Shipbuilding posts: Mr Graham Day (above) was appointed deputy chairman and chief executive of British Shipbuilders, the new state organization. Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin was named chairman-designate 15

More aid for NVT

A new plan to rescue Norton Villiers Triumph with state aid of between £250,000 and £500,000 is expected to be announced by the Government. Under the scheme Barclays, NVT's bankers, are being asked to provide a similar sum to enable the company to continue on a reduced scale Page 15

Import curbs 'modest'

Mr Edmund Dell, Paymaster General, assured Britain's EEC partners in Brussels that any restrictions on imports introduced by the Government would be *modest* in scope. Even so, Mr Dell came under strong pressure to avoid import controls Page 15

Rail challenge

The railway unions, in their campaign against any large-scale cuts in the system, are to challenge the Labour Party to keep to its manifesto pledge to "move as much traffic as possible from road to rail and water" Page 2

Aiding homeless: The Government is to legislate to place a duty on local authorities to house the homeless 3

Milk protest: Animal-feed compounders are protesting at an EEC plan to make them include skim milk in livestock rations 5

Washington: British attack on Concorde objectors accuses American agency of unprofessional conduct 8

Russian visit: Dr Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi, left for a nine-day tour of Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev 7

Canberra: Struggle begins for a Labour leader to replace Mr Whitlam 8

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Leading articles: Poland; The railways; *The Economist* case
Features, pages 11 and 12
Peter Walker defends local government reform against the critics; Bernard Levin on the lone voice that could stop the retreat at the United Nations: Fashion by Prudence Glynn
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Paul Overy on contemporary British art in Liverpool and London; John Percival on Glen Tetley's new ballets for Stuttgart; Michael Church on *The Maids* (King's Head, London).
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Business News, pages 15-21
Stock markets: Equities were subdued but medium-term gilts were strong. The *FT* index closed 1.2 up at 363.5
Financial Editor: Bowater three years after the merger; containing the French problem at Venesta; Winthall is unhappy about the Herbert Morris merger
Business features: Moves to give public employees the right to play a fuller part in political life are discussed by Eric Wigham; Paul Neuburg on the eastern bloc's drive to achieve self-sufficiency in food
Business Diary: How British Leyland's performance will be monitored by "Batman and Robin".

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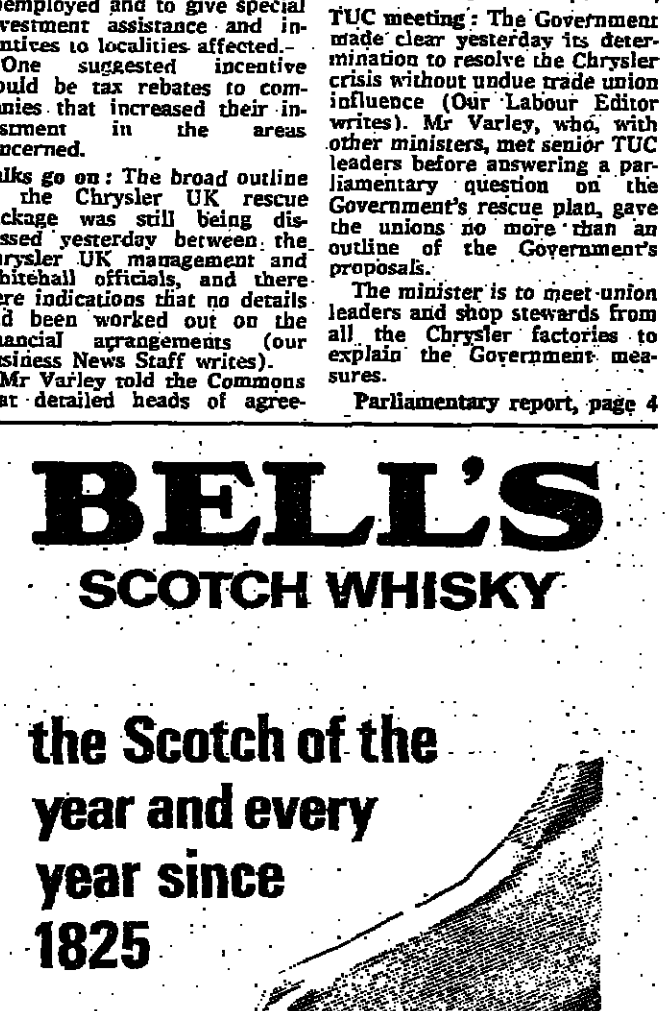

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HOME NEWS

Railmen challenge Labour Party to honour manifesto pledge on move away from road traffic

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff

The railway unions have intensified their campaign to preserve the industry's future by making a direct challenge to the Labour Party to keep to the terms of its election manifesto. Just over a year ago the manifesto gave good reason for optimism, the unions maintain.

Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, is to receive a deputation of rail union leaders before Christmas. They will draw his attention to the part of the manifesto that says: "The energy crisis has underlined our objectives to move as much traffic as possible from road to rail and water, and to make us less dependent upon the private car."

A request to meet the Prime Minister was unsuccessful, but the unions will meet Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, probably before Christmas, as a prelude to meeting Mr Wilson. The unions believe that somewhere in Mr Crosland's department plans exist to reduce the railway network of 11,300 miles by a third or more, although the ministry has said that "no such plans exist in Whitehall".

The National Union of Railwaymen said yesterday: "We want Mr Crosland to give a firm assurance that any schemes in the department for reducing the system will be knocked on the head. We want Mr Hayward, who after all is custodian of the manifesto, to reaffirm Labour Party policy. "The plans that exist cut right across the manifesto. The Government's intention from 1976 to maintain the investment level at £238m will inevitably mean cutbacks."

The union will hold a mass meeting and lobby of Parliament today, preceded by a march from Euston station to Central Hall, Westminster, as part of its campaign, said to be costing £20,000, against the rail cuts. Many thousands of railwaymen are expected to attend, and some have chartered special trains to London.

Union leaders last night went to the Commons to put their fears to the Labour members of the parliamentary transport committee.

Mr Richard Marsh, British Rail chairman, will meet Mr Gilbert, Minister for Transport, today, to review the railways' critical financial position.

The Government's plans to reduce the capital expenditure programme lies at the heart of the unions' contention that the railways will be forced to cut services. The unions suspect that the railways will have to bear a disproportionate burden of the constraints in public spending.

Mr Walter Johnson, Labour MP for Derby, South, one of the rail union-sponsored MPs, has asked Mr Crosland and Mr Gilbert for a statement in the Commons this week to reassure the unions "that there will be no major change in the rail network and no final decisions taken without consultations with them".

Mr Peter Rost, Conservative MP for Derbyshire, South-east, is anxious that there should be no cut or standstill on research development and production of the high-speed train or the advanced passenger train, which is based at Derby.

Scottish fears: The Scottish TUC yesterday added its voice to the increasing opposition in Scotland to any large-scale rail cuts. (*our Glasgow Correspondent writes*). There was also critical response from Sir William Gray, chairman of the Scottish Development Agency, and Professor Kenneth Alexander, chairman-designate of the Highlands Development Board.

Sir William said he found it difficult to believe that British Rail would seriously contemplate, or that the Government would allow, the disappearance of rail services north of the central belt. Professor Alexander said: "It is both difficult to believe and to accept."

Mr James Milne, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, said in a statement that the STUC General Council was seriously concerned about the threat to public transport, which could result not only in job losses but in detracting from the attractiveness of Scotland for incoming industrialists.

Leading article, page 13

Decision sought on cement danger

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Government indecision is delaying repairs to some schools and other premises built with high alumina cement, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday.

Mr Robin McCall, secretary of the association, said authorities were still waiting after 18 months to hear what grant the Government would give towards the work needed to ensure safety.

About 20 local authorities, including Leeds, Birmingham and the Greater London Council, were badly affected by the high-alumina cement danger, and the total cost throughout the country was about £30m, including £15m in the metropolitan areas.

The Government had been giving sanction for authorities to borrow money for the work, but that did not help council finance chairmen trying to find out the cost the authority would have to bear.

Some authorities are seeking a 100 per cent specific grant for repair work, and the association believes that the Government's share should be at least 75 per cent. Mr McCall explained that the Government was reluctant to commit money for specific grants, preferring to confine local government expenditure largely to the rate-support grant.

A Government decision was urgently awaited. "I hope it will come in the next few weeks", Mr McCall said.

British failure to issue warrant for Miss McKearney angers Dublin

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

A continued threat to full Anglo-Irish security cooperation is being posed by the failure of the British authorities to send a warrant to Dublin requesting the extradition of Miss Margaret McKearney.

In September Miss McKearney was described by Scotland Yard as the most wanted woman terrorist in Britain. The charge was repeated last month after her arrest and subsequent release by local police in Monaghan.

There is now widespread belief in the Irish coalition Cabinet that the police in Britain do not possess enough evidence to support the charges they made against Miss McKearney in two press conferences. That has caused an atmosphere of distrust which has affected the attitudes of some leading members of the Irish police.

A senior government official in Dublin told me yesterday: "There is still no sign of the writ, and until it arrives there is nothing more we can do to sort this matter out. The least we could have expected was some unofficial guidance about what is going on."

The warrant is understood to be still under consideration by the Director of Public Prosecutions in London, while what amounts to a political decision is taken about whether to proceed with it.

Although the British are known to be unhappy with the extradition arrangements with the republic, the failure to go through with the accepted international procedures has convinced Irish ministers that the British security forces are trying to discredit them.

The feeling has been reinforced by failure of the police in Northern Ireland to take action to implement the adaptation of the Offences Against the Persons Act, 1861, which was put into operation in the republic two years ago. That enables any person accused of murder inside Ulster, however motivated, to be tried in courts in the South.

The absence of any attempt to make use of it has increased the sensitivity of the Dublin government to repeated accusations that it provides a haven for wanted terrorists.

"The fact that this exceptional legal provision has never been invoked shows clearly that there has been no evidence available against anyone resident in the republic during the past two years", a government official explained. "That is not the impression given recently by some spokesmen in London and Belfast."

In an effort to clear up the outstanding administrative difficulties affecting cross-border security, it is believed that Mr Cooney, the Irish Minister for Justice, will seek a meeting with Mr Rees soon.

Call to ma parents meet scho damage

By Our Education Co dent

Parents should be r pay for the damage children do in scho Assistant Masters Ass has told the Departm Education and Science.

The association, wh 42,000 members, ca changes in the 1933 a Children and Young Acts. It says the Acts adequate to deal with creasing amount of van official explained. "That is not the impression given recently by some spokesmen in London and Belfast."

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Police search for bombs cache intensifies

By Clive Borrell
and Stewart Tendler

Scotland Yard called in extra officers yesterday to reinforce the bomb squad in their attempt to find what could be a second cache of bombs.

Senior detectives believe that a store of gelignite smuggled out of the Irish Republic this year exists somewhere in north-east London.

They are anxious to get to the cache before the IRA. They are also concerned that if it is left undiscovered it may become unstable and explode. Detectives last night renewed their appeal to landlords of bed-sitting rooms and flats to report the absence of young Irish tenants they have not seen for 10 days.

A flat was raided on Friday night, a few hours after the Balcombe Street siege ended, in which two of the captured men had lived. The police found bomb-making equipment, a rifle and ammunition but no explosives.

The flat was in Crouch Hill, north London, and the hiding place of the other two men is thought to have been in the same area.

A senior Scotland Yard detective said last night: "We are desperate to get into this flat before anyone else does because lives could be in danger. We know that somewhere in this area there is a large quantity of explosives which by the minute is becoming more unstable and could detonate at any time."

Landlords of flats who did not collect their rent last week were asked last night to make an immediate check on their premises and not leave it for another week.

While the four men held after the siege are still being questioned information is being exchanged between Scotland Yard and the Irish police. The men's names have not been officially released but they are all understood to have been recruited in the Irish Republic.

So far the men have been held at Paddington Green police station on the basis of being interviewed by the police rather than under the anti-terrorist legislation. Charges are unlikely for some days.

Village was 'virtually awash' with stolen goods

A village became "awash" with stolen property for four years, it was stated at Bedford Crown Court yesterday. The village, Riseley, near Bedford, with a population of 600, was used by thieves as a distribution centre for stolen goods taken in raids on universities, hospitals, colleges, private homes and a transport company.

Nine men, who lived in or near the village, pleaded guilty to a total of 39 charges of handling and receiving stolen goods valued at a total of £30,500, between 1971 and early this year.

Sentencing the nine to jail terms varying from one year to 21 months, and fines of from £120 to £150, Judge Lymbery, QC, said: "No case could be a better example of the rather trite saying that if there were no receivers there would be no thieves."

Mr Martin Bowley, for the prosecution, said: "The matter has become known as the Riseley saga. It would appear that for a substantial period of time this small village was virtually awash with stolen property."

One of the defendants was Allan Bateley, aged 26, former landlord of the village public house, the Five Bells. He was jailed for 21 months after pleading guilty to nine charges and asking for six similar offences involving 92,000 cigarettes, 500 cigars and 36 bottles of spirits to be taken into consideration.

Mr Bowley said Mr Bateley had bought stolen cigarettes at £1 for 200, and spirits at £1.50 a bottle, and had sold them over the bar at normal prices.

Clogs being made at Walton Brothers, Halifax. After years of decline such footwear appears to be making a comeback.

'Doubt in police credibility' clears trader

Colin Blythe, a market trader, who was jailed after a police sergeant had accused him of selling bogus programmes at a football match, was freed today because of "doubt about the officer's credibility".

Lord Justice Lawton, in the Court of Appeal quashed Mr Blythe's conviction, and said he hoped a report of the case would be sent to the Commissioner of Metropolitan Police. Mr Blythe had served five weeks of his nine-month sentence before being granted bail pending appeal.

Mr Blythe, aged 30, of Altair Close, Tottenham, London, was convicted at Middlesex Crown Court on July 11 of obtaining 10p by deception.

Mr Justice Talbot, sitting with Lord Justice Lawton and Mr Justice Pain, said that at the trial the officer refreshed his memory from a notebook. But it was now known that that was not the notebook in which he had first made his notes. It was also known now that the officer's two notebooks showed inconsistencies about the time of the alleged offence.

Closure of uneconomic hospitals raised

By Our Medical Reporter

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, was asked yesterday by the Royal College of Nursing urgently to consider nursing priorities in the present difficulties within the National Health Service.

The plea was made in a covering letter to a memorandum which says that money could be saved by the closure of small uneconomic hospitals and some wards in larger hospitals. The college says that any savings made in the hospitals should be spent on providing services in the community.

The college expresses concern and disappointment that the Government, in the Queen's Speech, made no reference to the Briggs Report recommendations on nursing. A key point in that report, published in October, 1972, was a new education system for nurses.

The college says that five nurses, using the term to include the qualified, students and auxiliaries, are needed to keep one on duty to provide 24-hour cover, 52 weeks of the year. Units such as those dealing with renal failure, liver and heart conditions absorb a disproportionate number of nursing and other staff.

There is also a lack of appreciation, it says, that when extra medical staff are employed more nurses are needed. More doctors mean more work for nurses; and junior doctors often need support from experienced nursing staff.

Customs offic on plot charg

Charles Escott, aged customs officer, of Th cent, Sandgate, Folkesto committed for trial by magistrates yesterday wi other people charged wi spiring to evade the prob on the import of cannab

Mr Escott was grante totalling £2,600. The defendants also were bail.

Shotgun raiders escape with £20,000

From Our Correspondent
Perth

Three masked men, armed with sawn-off shotguns, made off with more than £20,000 in a morning raid on the Bank of Scotland in High Street, Auchterarder, Tayside, yesterday.

Within an hour of the robbery the raiders' car, a Morris 1300, was found abandoned on a country road near Gleneagles Hotel. From there, detectives, led by Chief Inspector Lamond, believe that the men transferred to another vehicle and headed towards Glasgow.

One man is described as 6ft 2in tall, well built, with a heavy dark brown jacket. The second is 5ft 9in tall, of medium build, with a fur-edged dark blue hooded jacket and green trousers. The third is 5ft 10in, slightly built with dark clothing.

Guitarist jailed for life for boy's murder

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

A woman screamed and two men started fighting in the public gallery at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday when a guitarist in a pop group called The Elusive Time was jailed for life for murdering a boy aged 12. Police officers ejected all three.

Thomas Joseph Cooney, aged 20, of Lower Arkwright Street, Liverpool, was convicted after the jury had been out for two and a half hours.

John Noon, aged 12, was said by witnesses to be as mischievous as any other boy of his age who spent most of his spare time in Stanley Park, Liverpool. On the afternoon of August 28, after a party and dressed as a Red Indian brave, he met Mr Cooney near the lake and asked him for a cigarette.

Mr Norman Miscampbell, QC, for the prosecution, said the two talked, shared a cigarette, then went into the bushes. The next day the boy, his face still daubed with purple and red paint, was found strangled. He said the police found Mr Cooney's diary near the body. Mr Cooney admitted that it was his and that he had strangled the boy.

In evidence, Mr Cooney, who pleaded not guilty, said he made a false confession because he was blaming himself for indecency with the boy in the shrubbery. The truth, he said, was that he heard someone approaching and ran away, leaving the boy alive and unharmed.

Christmas away from parents

Three children are to spend Christmas in the United States away from their parents, Mr Justice Hollings decided at Preston, Lancashire yesterday. They will stay with their father's parents.

Their father, Mr Mark Manning, is an American. He and his English wife are disputing custody of the children, who were made wards of court last week.

Bogus clergyman sought by police

A bogus clergyman is being sought by detectives in the West Midlands after a £40,000 raid on a house at Wednesbury.

The man, wearing a clerical collar, talked his way into the home of Mr Ernest Freeman, aged 68, a widower and coshed him. He let an accomplice into the house in Leabrook Road, and after tying up Mr Freeman, they ransacked a safe of cash, valuable coins and jewelry.

Islanders sue for £21.5m

A £21.5m claim against British Government launched in the High yesterday by representat the former inhabitan Ocean Island in the Pacif

They claims they are to that sum as extra r for phosphate mined fr island since 1931. The the second by the is was adjourned until tod

MP flies kidney for transplant

Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Stretford, has flown his first emergency flight as a volunteer pilot in the St John Ambulance Air Wing.

He delivered a kidney, which became available in Guildford, from Gatwick to Newcastle upon Tyne for an urgent transplant operation. But the kidney was not used.

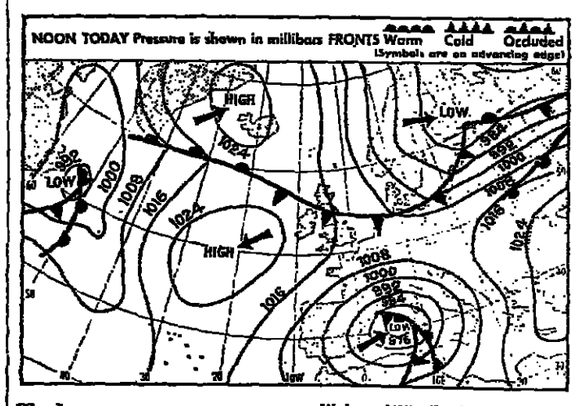
Man guilty of damaging alarm bell

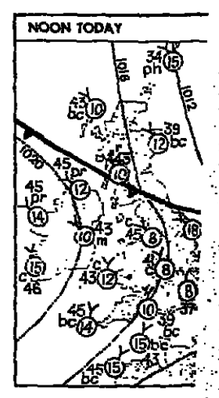
John Beer, who was "at his wits' end" over a burglar alarm ringing just below his flat, silenced it with a blow from a pickaxe handle, it was stated at Clerkenwell Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

Mr Beer, aged 36, father of three children, of Redcliffe House, Bourne Estate, Holborn, pleaded guilty to criminally damaging the alarm bell. He was granted a conditional discharge for 12 months.

Mr Beer, a printer, said the bell had been ringing for hours when he took action to stop it. He used a stepladder to climb to the alarm, above Swissco jeweller's shop, in Clerkenwell Road.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 8.0 am **Sun sets:** 3.52 pm
Moon sets: 5.37 am **Moon rises:** 2.30 pm
Full Moon: December 18.
Lighting up: 4.22 pm to 7.31 am.
High water: London Bridge, 12.12 pm, 6.3m (20.8ft). Avonmouth, 5.20 am, 11.5m (37.6ft); 5.47 pm, 11.7m (38.5ft). Dover, 9.28 am, 5.9m (19.4ft); 9.57 pm, 6.0m (19.8ft). Hull, 4.11 am, 6.4m (21.0ft); 4.41 pm, 6.7m (22.0ft). Liverpool, 9.36 am, 8.3m (27.1ft); 9.53 pm, 8.4m (27.4ft).

A trough of low pressure will move S across Scotland.

Area forecasts:

London, Midlands, East Anglia, SE, Central S, E, Central N England: Mist or fog, freezing in places, thinning slowly, probably returning during evening: wind variable, light: max temp 4°C (39°F).

Channel Islands: Dry and sunny; wind E, moderate or fresh; max temp 6°C (43°F).

SW England: Mist or fog patches at first, mainly cloudy but dry; wind E, light; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Wales, NW England: Cloudy, light rain or drizzle, hill fog patches; wind variable or W, light; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Cloudy, rain and hill fog patches; wind W, moderate, becoming fresh; max temp 7°C (45°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Mist or fog patches, soon clearing, sunny intervals, rain at times later; wind W, fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Rain and hill fog, becoming clearer and mainly dry from N; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Rain and hill fog patches; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 7°C (45°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind NW, fresh, becoming moderate; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mostly dry in N Ireland, Wales and SW England, rain or showers elsewhere, fog patches, rather cold, overnight frost.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 4°C (39°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 0°C (32°F). H pm, 83 per cent. Rai 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr 1.2hr. Bar, mean sea l 1,026.1 millibars, fallin 1.000 millibars = 29.53in.

30-day forecast

The Meteorologica yesterday issued the full cast for the next 30 day

For about the first districts are likely to dry with temp below Later, more disturbed likely, especially in th temp above average. is expected to be near central and S Engla average in Wales, W E and N Scotland and N below average in E Sc E England. Total rainfa are likely to be near most areas, but below E Scotland and E En and frost are likely to about average frequenc but above it in the likely to occur with usual frequency.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; du, dull; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; th, thunder.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Aberdeen	c	39	63	Cardiff	c	41	59	Jersey	r	41	59
Algiers	c	20	68	Cologne	c	0	32	L Palmas	r	18	64
Amsterdam	s	0	32	Copenhgn	c	1	34	Lisbon	c	11	52
Athens	c	12	54	Dublin	c	4	39	Locarno	r	3	37
Barcelona	c	15	59	Edinburgh	s	3	37	London	r	6	43
Beirut	c	19	66	Florence	s	7	45	Luxemburg	r	1	34
Belfast	r	4	39	Funchal	s	15	59	Madrid	r	3	37
Berlin	c	3	37	Geneva	c	2	36	Majorca	c	14	57
Biarritz	c	14	57	Gibraltar	r	14	57	Malaga	c	16	61
Birmingm	c	5	41	Guernsey	s	6	43	Malta	r	16	61
Bristol	c	7	45	Helsinki	r	1	34	Manchstr	r	4	39
Brussels	s	2	36	Innsbruck	s	1	34	Moscow	an	1	34
Budapest	r	2	36	Istanbul	r	6	43	Munich	c	1	30
Naples	c	11	52	Stockholm	s	0	32
New York	c	11	52	Venice	c	9	48
Nice	r	14	57	Vienna	c	0	32
Oslo	s	0	32	Warsaw	c	0	32
Paris	s	2	36	Zurich	s	0	32
Reykjavk	bl	1	30				
Rome	r	12	54				
Rondaway	d	8	46				

Guarantee to consultants on NHS and private practice

The Government published yesterday its proposals to end the dispute with the doctors over private practice. A statement said:

1. The Government's policy, as the Queen's Speech made clear, is that legislation will be introduced in the course of this session to phase private practice out of NHS hospitals, and this remains the policy of the Government. As the Secretary of State indicated in her letter of October 8 to Dr Stevenson, the legislation would re-enact the existing guarantee on the right of consultants to combine NHS and private practice. In announcing the setting up of the royal commission on October 20, the Prime Minister also made clear that the Government are "committed to the maintenance of private medical practice in this country" and "intend to guarantee this in the legislation". The problem is to relate the phasing out of pay beds to the preservation of the right to practise medicine privately.

2. The legislation would contain first a broad declaration that private beds and facilities should be separated from the NHS; secondly, an expression of the Government's commitment to the maintenance of private medical and dental practice in this country through the renewal of the provision in the 1949 Act which maintains the right to private practice by enabling doctors and dentists to work both privately and in NHS establishments; and thirdly, the establishment of an independent board to relate these two commitments.

3. Despite its continuing opposition, the medical and dental professions acknowledge that the phasing out of pay beds in NHS hospitals may, through legislation, become the will of Parliament. In that event the phasing out should be subject to the safeguards outlined below:

(a) The criterion for phasing out shall be the reasonable availability of reasonable alternative facilities (including accommodation, services and equipment) within a reasonable geographical distance and to which reasonable access is available to those patients and practitioners desiring to avail themselves of it.

(b) Subject to Parliament's decision, it is accepted that there are some pay beds and facilities which could be phased out from the NHS without undue delay, there being already reasonable alternative beds and facilities; and that the Government will publish in a schedule to the Bill the location of 1,000 pay beds to be released to general NHS service within six months after the Bill has received Royal Assent. In determining this schedule the Government will wish to consult fully with the medical and dental professions and with those responsible for providing private medical and dental facilities outside the National Health Service. The Government will also wish to consult at the level of the individual hospital. The criteria for use in these consultations and in determining the content of the schedule shall be the extent to which the pay beds are being used and the reasonable availability of alternative beds and facilities for the practice of private medicine. The legislation will supersede the existing powers of the Secretary of State to authorize pay beds and it is not her intention pending the passage of the legislation to vary the existing numbers.

(c) It is also accepted that the phasing out of the remaining private facilities should be subject to the creation of an independent board appointed by the Government. The board will have an independent chairman (the appointment of whom will be the subject of consultation with all interested parties) and four other members appointed by the Government. Two would be members of the medical profession and it would be the Government's intention to ensure that these members were acceptable to the profession. The remaining two would be appointed after consultation with other NHS staff and other interested parties.

(d) In determining the phasing out of pay beds and facilities from the NHS the board will be guided by the following criteria:

i That for the retention of beds or facilities for private practice in NHS hospitals there should be reasonable demand for private medicine in the areas of the country served by those particular hospitals.

ii That for the abolition of beds or facilities for private practice in NHS hospitals there should be available sufficient accommodation or facilities for the reasonable operation of private medicine in the areas of the country served by those particular hospitals.

iii That in those areas of the country presently served for private practice by a particular NHS hospital, all reasonable steps had been or were being taken to provide private beds or facilities outside NHS hospitals and that this would be kept under continuous review.

iv That where all reasonable steps to provide in the area of the country concerned alternative private beds and facilities outside an NHS hospital that could be taken were not being taken this would, after due warning, be itself ground for recommending the withdrawal of facilities for private practice in that particular NHS hospital.

(e) The board shall not necessarily retain existing private facilities for the purpose of specialized operations, treatment and investigations where the NHS is prepared to make such accommodation and equipment reasonably available on an occasional basis for individual requirements in specified circumstances and at an appropriate charge. The Bill would propose to allow health authorities to provide and charge for such specialized services for patients provided that they can satisfy the Secretary of State that there will be no disadvantage to NHS patients, and that such patients—whatever their country of origin—are admitted on the same basis of medical priority as an NHS patient. The Secretary of State will also have to be satisfied that these specialized services cannot reasonably be provided in the private sector to a satisfactory standard in this country.

Details of such arrangements will be regularly notified to the department. Charges will be made to these patients (or in the case of patients sponsored by overseas government, to their governments) and there would be no subsidy by the NHS. No professional fees will be received by whole-time NHS staff, for their personal benefit, but an appropriate element of the total charge will be retained by the health authority, or in the case of an academic unit, the university department, to be used for medical and dental research or development work. Such an arrangement would be similar to the practice which already exists in respect of academic units by which fees for private treatment are received by the practitioner but are passed on to the unit's research funds. Staff on a part-time contract would be entitled to receive fees from these patients (or sponsors of such patients) and the amount would be determined in the usual way by agreement between the parties concerned.

(f) As stated in the Queen's Speech, the regulation of the private sector following the separation of pay beds will be subject to further consultation with the professions. In the meantime, the Government needs to be satisfied that developments in the private sector do not significantly endanger the service the NHS gives to its patients and will enter into consultation with the medical and dental professions as to how this can be achieved by voluntary means. The consultations would cover the point as to whether any reserve powers that it proved necessary to take in the legislation might be exercised by the independent board.

(g) The Government believes it is for urgent consideration that a common waiting list should be achieved between NHS and private patients in NHS hospitals. The professions maintain that if any such scheme is a possibility it can only operate for urgent cases, in view of the varied nature of the waiting lists and facilities available at different hospitals. The Government maintains that it is possible to devise common waiting list arrangements by which all NHS and private patients are admitted on grounds of medical priority alone. These are matters for detailed discussion. The Bill will instruct the board within six months of Royal Assent to make recommendations to the Secretary of State (taking into account the representations of the professions and all other relevant considerations) on the best possible procedures to be undertaken in NHS hospitals covering those beds and facilities that are still to be phased out.

Overseas selling prices

Austria, Sch 16; Belgium, Canaries, Pes 16; Denmark, Finland, Fmk 1.20; France, Germany, Dms 1.00; Greece, Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Luxembourg, L1 200; Malaysia, emboura, L1 200; Malta, 22c; Norway, Kr 2.5 Esc 20; Spain, Pes 20; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, Sfr 1.25; Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia,

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esidential centres o not reduce ffences, report says

Peter Evans
e Affairs Correspondent

Home Office report published today provides more ence suggesting that the reason for sending delints to a residential institu- that it reduces delin- cy, is not valid.

acknowledges that there always be a limited need ntrol of behaviour endang- the public or the child, the impression is left that more boys than necessary in such institutions.

e report, which is produced he Home Office Research is based on a study of two sting methods used at wood Training School, Bristol, for delinquent

l records were exam- see if the 280 boys in y, whose average age 3 years, offended dur- two years after they gswood.

research spanned the 1965-1973, during which wood, an approved school, a community home after Children and Young Per- Act, 1969. But the authors, Cornish and R. V. G. e, add that the change not alter the implications findings.

e house at the school was on what the report calls olently paternalistic but ously liberal lines. The had a more permissive rapeutic community", lished by a clinical psy- gist, with egalitarian participation in decision taking by staff and boys who were on first name terms.

There was no significant difference between the rate of reconviction of boys from the two houses in the two-year period after they left. Nor was there between the two houses and a third.

Noting that some other boys there committed offences after the two years as well, the report concludes: "This suggests that only for about 20 per cent of those admitted to the school could it be argued that institutional intervention had provided more than a temporary interruption of their delinquent behaviour."

The findings make clear that it is not enough to take a boy temporarily out of the environment that encourages him to commit crime and attempt to modify his behaviour in an artificial setting without any modification to the environment to which he is to return.

Since research suggested the extent to which a boy's family circumstances could affect his later behaviour, the report says that "time out" in a residential institution could be put to better use if, during the offender's absence, efforts were made to alter his home environment in ways that might not be otherwise practicable. Another idea is that day schools in the boy's community could provide training in work skills.

Residential treatment and its effects on delinquency. Home Office Research Study No 32, by D. B. Cornish and R. V. G. Clarke. (Stationery Office, £1).

Liberals may field 5,000 local candidates

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Liberal Party plans to field at least five thousand candidates in May's district council elections, Mr Stephen Ross, MP for the Isle of Wight and party spokesman on the environment, said yesterday. That will be about double the number of candidates who contested the last important district council elections, in 1973.

Launching a new handbook, *Liberals in Local Government*, Mr Ross said that since July 1975, local by-elections had disclosed a swing of 7.2 per cent to the Liberals.

The party has a controlling majority on three local authorities, Liverpool, Eastbourne and Adur (West Sussex), and Mr David Evans, chairman of the association of Liberal councillors, believes that the Liberals could win control of 20 councils in May if conditions are favourable.

Mr Geoffrey Finsberg, Conservative MP for Camden, Hampstead, and vice-chairman of the party with special responsibility for Greater London, said yesterday that a gain in Kingston, and substantial swings to the Conservatives elsewhere in four other elections last week had administered a stern rebuke to the Wilson government.

Orkney tourist boom

With more than 65,000 people going to Orkney from April to October the islands had a 23 per cent increase in visitors during the tourist year compared with 1974.

Judge Patricia Coles, QC, after she had been sworn in as a circuit judge at the House of Lords yesterday by Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor.

Photographed in the act

A photograph taken by Mr Gerald Brittondon when he saw someone walking away with 13 records from his fairground stall was included in the prosecution documents at Gloucester Crown Court yesterday when Robert Collins, aged 27, of Seymour Place, Tewkesbury, admitted dishonestly handling 13 records from Mr Brittondon. He was given six months' jail, suspended for 18 months.

Mr Michael Rush, for the prosecution, said the photograph came out well, showing Mr Collins with the records in his hand.

New moves by ministers to protect consumers

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Two further initiatives in consumer protection will be announced before Christmas. The first is to enforce unit pricing of fish and the second is to investigate the reasons for high prices of some groceries in rural areas.

An order is to be laid by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, to enforce unit-pricing of most fresh fish and many packs of frozen fish. It means that fishmongers and processers will have to state prices by the pound instead of by the piece or pack. The aim is to enable shoppers to make easy estimates of comparative value.

The order has been compiled after much bargaining between traders and officials at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. Fishmongers said unit-pricing would cause confusion when applied to salmon portions for which different prices a pound were charged for different parts.

The investigation of rural prices will be announced by Mr Maclennan, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. It began after an investigation by the Price Commission.

Family expedition

Major John Blashford-Snell, the explorer, is setting off today on an expedition to the Chitwan valley in Nepal with his wife and daughters, and two of his army friends.

Government acts to house the homeless

By Pat Healy

The Government has decided after all to legislate to place a duty on local authority housing departments to provide accommodation for homeless people. The legislation, expected in the next session of Parliament, will also clarify the responsibilities of social service authorities to the homeless.

A confidential consultation paper issued earlier this year said the Government was not persuaded of the need for legislation. Mr Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, announcing the decision in the Commons yesterday made clear that the Government has been convinced by two factors.

First, a questionnaire showed that many local authorities have not responded to Government advice on homelessness. Secondly, the local authority associations and 35 other bodies giving evidence after the consultation paper agreed that there should be a statutory responsibility on housing authorities.

The questionnaire showed that 60 per cent of local housing authorities have accepted the sole or main responsibility for accommodating homeless people, as was recommended in a joint government circular two years ago. About three-quarters of all authorities will not help people who do not satisfy residential qualifications, which conflicts with the circular's advice. Some authorities are also ignoring the circular's advice not to split families in temporary accommodation.

Mr Freeson promised yesterday that the Department of the Environment would take action before the legislation over those authorities that still split homeless families. Some of them do so invariably, he said.

Before introducing a new Bill on homelessness, the department intends to hold meetings with local authority associations and voluntary housing and social services bodies. Their views will be taken into account in drafting the legislation, and progress will be reported to the Commons before a Bill is introduced.

Mr Freeson gave a warning that "while clear and firm statutory duties and guidelines must be provided, they will not by themselves ensure reasonable and humane practice in solving the causes of or relieving homelessness". That depended on development of housing policies, programmes and allocation practices; the willingness of housing and social services departments to work together; and cooperation between local authorities, particularly to help areas with great housing pressure.

Welcoming the decision yesterday, Mr Christopher Holmes, deputy director of Shelter, said the questionnaire returns confirmed their own evidence that local authorities had been slow and reluctant to implement the circular. Many were still taking children into care, refusing to take responsibility for the priority groups defined in the circular, and still using bed-and-breakfast accommodation for homeless families.

"I believe the Government has changed its mind largely because it has been shocked by the answers from the local authorities", Mr Holmes said. "The pressure from the Labour Party conference and voluntary groups for legislation has been shown to be justified."

In brief

Streaker told to leave half of bet

Kenneth James Hendry, a Liverpool labourer, who ran unclothed on to Westminster Bridge and then swam the Thames on Saturday, was asked by Mr Kenneth Barraclough at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday why he did it.

Mr Hendry, aged 26, replied: "For a bet." Mr Barraclough asked: "How much?" and when Mr Hendry said £10, he replied: "Well, leave half of it."

Frigate leaves for cod war patrol

The frigate Andromeda, 2,500 tons, sailed yesterday from Devonport to relieve one of the three frigates inside Iceland's disputed 200-mile fishing limit. It has two 4.5in guns and 263 officers and men on board.

£10m housing plan

Vauxhall Motors is planning a £10m house-building scheme on land near its Luton car factory. The company has applied for planning permission for 900 houses, flats and shops on a 58-acre site.

15 hours adrift

A cabin cruiser which was adrift in the North Sea for 15 hours with two men on board after breaking down was towed to safety at Amble, Northumberland, yesterday.

Bombs recovered

An army bomb disnosal team has drilled two shafts 20 feet deep into the site of a reservoir dam wall at Ardingly, Sussex, to recover two German bombs.

ADVERTISEMENT

President Pinochet replies to the Resolution of the United Nations

Chile firmly rejects the agreement approved against her. "We shall continue in our challenge so that the entire world will know the truth"

Chile categorically rejects the agreement of the United Nations which sustains that she has violated human rights. In announcing this rejection, the President of the Republic, General Augusto Pinochet said: "It is very depressing to observe how many Governments of respectable countries join today in the conspiracy against our country. I have the intimate conviction that their attitude does not often interpret the sentiment of their own people, that it corresponds to a veil that blinds them to the danger which the international action of Marxism-Leninism signifies, but I harbour the firm hope that the reality of the facts will make this veil drop some day and that many Nations which now accuse us will make their own the truth that Chile today proclaims in her noble solitude."

It has been considered necessary that the text of the President's speech, transmitted on Friday, 12th December, at 21.30 hours in Chile, should be made known to public opinion in the United Kingdom.

I address myself tonight, to National and International Public Opinion to defend the dignity of Chile. I am doing this because a recent resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations has sought to unjustly impair that dignity by accusing us of systematically violating human rights without a serious basis for such a charge.

In view of such an unfair accusation, our country must denounce our accusers' lack of moral authority. Among them there are dozens of Nations whose incipient civilized existence has not yet permitted them to know, within their own experience, what human rights really are. They are talking of something they know nothing about, based on references from third parties.

The group of our accusers is augmented by countries which, although figuring at the top of Western or Eastern culture in many aspects, could not resist a rigorous examination of how they respect human rights, since the pages of their recent history and at times of their own actual reality do not relieve them from serious faults. Nor can they throw the first stone.

But what is undoubtedly shameful is to tolerate with passive indifference the actions of those heading the attack against us, namely the Soviet Union and its satellite countries, whose imperialism has bloodstained many different zones of the Planet, in order to establish or sustain a totalitarian regime which destroys all moral principles and denies every human right.

Chile flatly rejects the resolution adopted against her because it is false, artificial, slanderous and profoundly unjust. I cannot repeat at this time the arguments and antecedents with which the Chilean Delegation to the United Nations amply discredited the accusations against us. We will endeavour, within the range of our possibilities, to make them known to international public opinion.

As for the Chilean people, the supreme argument of knowing and living the reality of our situation daily permits them to confirm the truth and offer supporting testimony. Here are the people of Chile to tell anyone who wishes to listen that September 11th, 1973 is an historic date of national liberation and since that day we are moving forward with respect, order and peace to continue to overcome the reefs ahead of us.

For this reason and with profound indignation in the face of such a pharisaical attitude, we raise with all our strength our voice of protest against an anti-juridical resolution of the United Nations which violates the very Charter that governs it.

Lack of moral authority

In fact, in accordance with existing norms, the United Nations has the mission of promoting respect for human rights. But up to now none has given it the right to arbitrarily check on the principles of non-intervention, self-determination of peoples, and juridical equality among Nations.

The agreement of the United Nations against Chile not only lacks all moral force but, in addition, has no juridical value because it is absolutely contrary to law.

Chile could limit herself to point out the lack of moral authority of its defamers, the slanderous falsity of the attacks made against her, and the anti-juridical character of the resolution adopted against her. These three elements of judgment would make it legitimate for us to offer opposition with our indifference and our silence in the face of an aggression in which justice and reason are completely absent.

However, our Government has decided to proceed in another manner. Together with defending the sovereign dignity of Chile unhesitatingly, we have developed a clear and profound doctrine on human rights, and we have just presented to the International Community a project which will permit, in the future, the serene investigation of the existence of those rights in all countries of the World.

The Government over which I preside has assumed a clear and valiant doctrinary position with regard to the theme of human rights.

In the declaration of principles of the Chilean Government issued in March 1974, we affirmed that "man has natural and superior rights to those of the State, emanating from the very nature of the human being, because they have their origin in the creator". We pointed out that "the State must recognize them and regulate the exercise of them, it can likewise never deny them". And to that we added that "human rights are the sap and marrow of Chilean Democracy". In the presidential message to the Nation on 11th September last, I went further into this subject, explaining how human rights are universal and inviolate but not unrestricted and that not all are of the same hierarchy.

The latter assumes particular importance in examining the situation of human rights in a certain country.

When all rights, without exception, become subordinated to the common welfare, they always remain subject to being exercised within juridical limitations which no organized society can fail to consecrate. But when a community faces an emergency or abnormal situation, it not only becomes necessary to emphasize such restrictions, but it may also be necessary to temporarily suspend the exercise of some less important rights in order to safeguard others of greater importance.

This calls for organizing the rights of the human being hierarchically and at the same time calls for an analysis of their reality within a country, dynamically protecting their tendency in time, but determining whether a restriction is designed to heal the social structure and strengthen the restricted right or whether it is a vehicle for definitely abolishing one or all human rights. There is nothing more deceiving on this subject than limiting oneself to considering the reality of a country at a determined instant, in static or photographic form, to compare it with the ideal model of formulating rights. There are no people in the world whose own experience does not indicate to them that is the wrong path.

To overcome the Marxist chaos

On September 11, 1973, we averted a latent situation of civil war and joined the will of the armed forces with that of the immense majority of our people to overcome the moral, institutional and economic chaos in which we had been plunged by a Marxist and corrupt government.

Since that day Chile has been serving this clear doctrine on Human Rights. In doing this we combined our high moral sense of Christian inspiration with the realism required by an authoritarian government in order to assure social peace.

We have a clear conscience that we are working in accordance with high and invariable principles. For that reason, our frontiers have been open to all who wanted to visit us, even though it was evident many times that some only came to our country in order to sustain an adverse judgment reached in advance. We even permitted various investigative commissions to enter the country and work freely, although there was no legal norm which obliged us to accept them. Which governments, among those who condemn us, can make the same statement?

In July of this year we had to refuse the entry of a working group of the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations. We did it for reasons of national dignity and security, fully explained at the time. As President of the Republic, I assumed an dassume complete responsibility for this decision insofar as conducting foreign relations, a duty of the Chief of State. The Chilean people enthusiastically backed this measure, and I believe that our experience afterwards eloquently demonstrated that it was correct.

Despite this and in order to clearly show its noble spirit, Chile recently submitted to the Third Commission of the General Assembly of the United Nations a transcendental draft resolution regarding future investigation of Human Rights.

The document proposes a mechanism that would permit the United Nations to count on a universal, obligatory and automatic system for investigating Human Rights, based on stable and objective procedures for the creation and functioning of investigative commissions.

In a few words, it consists of a system which, respecting the individual characteristics of each culture or geographical zone, results in a general and obligatory application for all countries. It would prevent any attempt to impose discriminately on a small and proud country that which the great powers can elude due to their strength or that those nations which have already become a subject of influence could similarly avoid.

An exemplary history of respect

On the other hand, the Chilean draft resolution seeks to fill the procedural vacuum and the duplication of competence with which the work of the investigative commissions in question operate today. The present absence of objective and stable standards in this respect favours the difference and arbitrariness in the origin and functioning of working groups which today lack precise rules for carrying out their actions.

There has not been a lack of those persons who have tried to maintain that our country would not be the best indicated for sponsoring such a resolution today. The truth is all to the contrary. There are few nations that could do it with more justice than ours.

Chile is a country that can exhibit an exemplary history of respect for the dignity of man. The feeling of liberty has always been a basic characteristic of our country, giving our nationality its individual rank and framing our tradition in solid juridical values. For that reason, and because of its pacifist vocation, our country was founder of the United Nations and its contribution to the creation of a more just international order with greater respect for Human Rights has been eminent and permanent during the last thirty years.

Therefore, this country which loves law and liberty has paradoxically suffered recently in its own flesh the dramatic experience of seeing how a naive and anachronic democracy became the easy prey for the Marxist-Leninist infiltration, into whose tyranny it almost fell. With national union destroyed to the very bases of the social structure, communism had already prepared a violent confrontation as a means for taking over total power.

With this situation overcome opportunely, we had to initiate a new and original experience to avoid a return to terrorist chaos, and to create a new democracy whose institutional principles guarantee freedom efectively and prevent and combat the organized action of its enemies.

The defence of Human Rights does not have for us a merely academic significance. It is something which vitally challenges us because it represents a relationship with our recent tragedy and with our future survival.

And if there is something that is lacking to justify still further our interest for sponsoring a universal and serious mechanism for investigation of Human Rights, I must add that we have been precisely the victims during two years of the lack of clear, general and just standards on the subject.

Our country is aware that its initiative on Human Rights represents a substantial innovation in relation to the principles which up to now have governed in the international community. Just the same we are prepared to receive constructive suggestions that might improve its content as long as they help to obtain basic success.

What we cannot silence is our indignant conscience as a result of the fate of the project in question.

Chile does not fear any serious investigation

We respect the attitude of those countries which did not support it, observing a consisten attitude of their international policy, but we strongly denounce the consummate hyprocrisy of the Soviet Bloc which, while it headed a campaign to investigate and accuse Chile, had formed a majority to file, without even submitting it to a vote, a project that sought to have the subject treated in a manner fair to all countries.

With its initiative, Chile has demonstrated that she does not fear any serious investigation because she has nothing to hide. With their rejection of it, the socialist Governments evidenced instead that they still need iron curtains, wire walls in order to conceal the horrors of their jails, the trail of their crimes, and the heartrending screams of millions and millions of human beings who for decades have groaned under the oppression of the most brutal tyranny the world has ever seen.

If, in view of such antecedents, a complex majority approved a resolution which accused Chile of serious violation of human rights, it constitutes an unqualified injustice to a country which only demands impartial and serious treatment, compatible with its sovereignty and with the truth. In addition, the agreement against us is a guarantee that the Judges on the Bench are those who should be in the dock of the accused.

Thus, an occasional majority in which the cynicism of some has been added to the moral cowardice and ignorance of others, has written a page which the history of the United Nations will have to keep to its own shame because it represents the dominion of power over reason, and because it is a reflection of a double measure which leaves peoples who are the victims of red imperialism abandoned to their own fate, while it tries to intimidate a small Nation which heroically defeated communism to save its own freedom.

We observe what is happening in the United Nations with great anxiety because, going beyond our particular case, there is no question but that the principles which inspired its creation in San Francisco are being liquidated.

Each day brings greater disillusionment as consideration of questions affecting countries in different regions of the Globe are being deformed; how real problems afflicting human beings are ignored or concealed and how, finally, conviction is subordinated to the occasional conveniences of certain great powers, or artificially and passing ideological power blocs.

With all this happening, the confidence which the peoples have placed in the United Nations is being betrayed, all of the constructive work in many matters is being thrown overboard, and the capacity of this organization to adequately carry out the delicate responsibilities for the future assigned to it under the Charter, is being undermined.

In view of this alarming state of affairs, I feel it necessary to address the international community and very especially the developing countries to ask them to reflect serenely and calmly.

Peace cannot be built on the arbitrary actions of the powerful nor on cowardice to face up to the situation. No human organization can survive if it is subject to the caprice of irrational and prepotent majorities which act without respect for any principles of general validity. This should especially concern the weak countries because they are the ones that most need a strong and effective United Nations, so that the Law guarantees them that which the great powers feel secure of because of their own strength.

Chile will remain in the United Nations

I also address myself to the national community to ask it to consider the seriousness of the aggressions we are suffering at this time, whose declared purpose is to produce the political, economic and commercial isolation of our country.

Foreseeing the difficult moments which we may have to face, the government, some months ago, adopted priority measures in the economic field in a move to reduce our dependence on the exterior. I have arranged for the Minister of Finance to address the country within a few days to report on our important progress in this area, especially in regard to the reduction of the projected deficit of the balance of payments for this year, an extraordinary effort which has forced a delay in the pace of the present drop of the rate of inflation.

I can understand that a great sector of Chilean public opinion asks itself today whether it is really worth the trouble to remain in an organization which is controlled by a majority that does not even respect itself.

But with the supreme responsibility of conducting the government, I must point out that it is our duty to do everything that may be compatible with our sovereignty and with our future destiny as a free nation, in order to avoid facing a situation of isolation which would aggravate the material suffering of our people.

Chile will remain in the United Nations while reasonable hope exists that justice will again prevail over arbitrariness. If this does not occur it is probable that the organization will collapse, since there surely must be many nations which will not want to continue to participate in a sad farce.

Meanwhile, we will continue our challenge so that the entire world will know the truth. And we will continue fighting so that truth will overcome the untruths of the extravagant and aberrating campaign of Soviet misinformation.

We will exercise greater dynamism in all of our diplomatic activities and especially in our participation in the United Nations, where we will continue to actively work for a change of course to restore the original legitimacy.

The courage to reject

In this hour of lack of understanding for our country, I thank, in the name of Chile, the countries that had the courage to reject the accusation against us. It is comforting to know that there is Spain, our mother country, and the majority of the Latin American countries, with whom we share a history of civilization and respect for the human being and with whom we share a common experience gained in fighting on our own soil against communist aggression and infiltration.

It is true that it is very depressing to observe how many Governments of respectable countries join today in the conspiracy against Chile. I have the intimate conviction that their attitude does not often interpret the sentiment of their own people, that it corresponds to a veil that blinds them to the danger which the international action of Marxism-Leninism signifies, but I harbour the firm hope that the reality of the facts will make this veil drop some day and that many Nations which now accuse us will make their own the truth that Chile today proclaims in her noble solitude.

We are seeing a sad spectacle of countries which believe that approximation to or unconditional support of communism will keep them out of danger. They believe that the Marxists-Leninists appreciate their submissive attitude and will loosen their ideological rigidity.

What a tremendous error—when the communists do not need the collaborations of those who can be used, they get rid of them in the most cold-blooded manner.

Because we are in the truth and because our vow of fidelity to it is the only path to better days for humanity and our country, no matter what the violence of the aggression against us may be, will never cede nor will we negotiate our sovereign destiny.

To defend it successfully, I call upon all Chileans to redouble their vigilance against the external and internal enemy and equally against those who serve as fellow travellers. And very especially I exhort all our compatriots to strengthen the national unity so that we can face a sneaky attack with rocklike cohesion and can bequeath a free, dignified and sovereign country to our children.

PARLIAMENT, December 15, 1975

Role for independent board in the phasing out of pay beds from National Health Service

House of Commons

MRS BARBARA CASTLE, Secretary of State for Social Services (Blackburn, Lab), in a statement on private practice and the National Health Service, said:

The House will be glad to know that this morning I have met representatives of the medical and dental professions on the Government's proposals for phasing private practice out of NHS hospitals. As a result of this meeting they are ready to call the Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services and the BMA Council, and the Council of the Hospital Consultants and Specialists' Association together later this week, and submit proposals to them for urgent consideration. It is hoped that they will be accepted and normal working resumed.

As the House will be aware, the Prime Minister and I met a representative delegation of the professions on December 3 at which the professions expressed anxiety that the Government's proposed legislation on phasing out private practice from NHS hospitals could render nugatory the practice of private medicine in this country which the Government has always said it does not intend to abolish.

At that meeting outline proposals were put forward by Lord Goodman which were regarded as the basis for urgent exploration. The Prime Minister undertook that these proposals would be examined and that the professions would be informed of the Government's response.

Since that time a process of clarification has been taking place with me through Lord Goodman and proposals have been evolved which the Government hope will lead to an end to this dispute. If the professions as a whole agree these proposals and normal working is resumed, the Government will embody these proposals in its legislation.

Under the proposals the professions make clear their continuing opposition to the phasing out of private practice and reserve their right to try to influence Parliament's decision on the point of principle, but they acknowledge that this may become the will of Parliament.

It is proposed that the legislation would embody two principles: first, that private beds and facilities should be separated from the NHS and secondly, an expression of the Government's commitment to the maintenance of private practice in this country through the renewal of the provision in the NHS Amendment Act 1949 which maintains the right to private practice by enabling doctors to work both privately and in NHS establishments.

These two commitments will be related through the establishment of an independent board set up by the Government. The board will have an independent chairman, two members drawn from the medical profession and acceptable to it an dtwo members appointed after consultation with NHS staff and other interested parties.

The criteria under which pay beds and facilities would be phased out in the legislation will be the reasonable availability of alternative facilities for private practice. It is accepted that there are some pay beds and facilities which on this basis, and on the basis of their under-use, could be phased out without delay.

The Bill will, therefore, contain a schedule giving details of 1,000 pay beds which will be phased out of the NHS within six months of Royal Assent. The schedule will be drawn up on the criteria which I have mentioned and after consultations with all concerned.

The phasing out of the remaining pay beds would be determined by the independent board which would be guided by the following criteria: that there should be a reasonable demand for private medicine in the area of the country served by a particular hospital; that sufficient accommodation or facilities existed in the area for the reasonable operation of private medicine, and that all reasonable steps had been, or were being taken, to provide those alternative beds and facilities.

This would be kept under continuous review. Where all reasonable steps were not being taken, that would, after due warning, be in itself grounds for withdrawing pay beds and facilities in the hospitals concerned.

One of the factors the board would bear in mind in deciding whether private facilities for specialized operations treatments and investigations should be phased out would be the willingness of the NHS to make such facilities reasonably available on an occasional basis in specified circumstances and at an appropriate charge. The Secretaries of State would have to be satisfied that there would be no disadvantage to NHS patients and that such patients were admitted on the same basis of medical priority as NHS patients.

Common lists

As stated in the Queen's Speech, the regulation of the private sector following the separation of pay beds will be subject to further consultation with the professions. In the meantime, the Government needs to be satisfied that developments in the private sector do not significantly endanger the service the NHS gives to its patients and will enter into consultation with the medical profession as to how this can be achieved by voluntary means.

The consultations would cover the point as to whether any reserve powers, that it proved necessary to take in the legislation, might be exercised by the independent board.

The Government believes that the smooth phasing out of pay beds would be facilitated if, pending their withdrawal, a system of common waiting lists were to be introduced. The professions have expressed reservations on this matter, but it is proposed that the legislation should instruct the board to examine this and make recommendations to the Secretaries of State within six months of Royal Assent to the Bill.

I hope that, in the light of these proposals—with which the Secretaries of State for Scotland and for Wales associate themselves—the professions will now accept that this is a matter for Parliament and end the damaging industrial action by senior medical staff.

The issue of private practice in National Health Service hospitals has long been one of great controversy, not least within the service itself. These proposals will ensure that the policy of separation is achieved, but in a way which should allay the fears of the medical profession, and provide an enduring settlement.

Relating Chrysler to Government's industrial strategy and to the motor car industry

MR HESELTINE, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Henley, C), asked the Secretary of State for Industry, by private notice, to make a statement on the terms of the Chrysler deal so that the House could consider it before tomorrow's debate.

MR VARLEY (Chesterfield, Lab)—No. (Conservative protests.) My discussions with the Chrysler Corporation are not yet complete—(cries of "Resign")—but I will be in a position to report their outcome to the House tomorrow (Tuesday). (Conservative cries of "Disgraceful".)

MR HESELTINE—Will Mr Varley think again about how he can make available to the House the terms he is so confident of reaching with the Chrysler Corporation in advance of the debate so that the House can have the opportunity of studying the terms rather than listening to them being dribbled out in the course of his speech?

What steps does he propose to ensure that the House will give authority to the Government so that they can conclude a deal with Chrysler before the end of the year? Any Government is entitled to privacy in conducting controversial negotiations, so can he explain why his colleagues leaked the substance of the deal to the press who are far better informed than the House?

Can the minister also explain to his colleagues that their bickering and their infighting, all of which has been substantially leaked to the press in advance of anything he may say tomorrow, have already destroyed what little credibility his Government's industrial strategy may have had? (Conservative cheers.)

MR VARLEY—It would not be helpful for me to anticipate any questions he has asked. Detailed heads of agreement are still under discussion with the Chrysler Corporation and are still subject to further exchanges between the Chrysler Corporation and my department. I do not expect they will be completed until later today. There is very little I can add.

MR HUCKFIELD (Nuneaton, Lab)—Many Labour MPs appreciate that this is possibly the most important statement of industrial policy the Government have had to make. Because of that, it is appropriate and correct that it should be comprehensive and final.

Many MPs representing Chrysler constituencies would like to press the urgency of giving us information so that we can tell our constituents where we stand. (Conservative shouts of "Read the newspapers".)

MR VARLEY—I shall make a comprehensive statement to the House tomorrow but I cannot really go further. I hope Mr Huckfield will not think me discourteous. I have taken great steps to keep him and other Labour and Opposition MPS informed as much as possible, but as Mr Heseltine acknowledged, it is necessary for these negotiations to take place in a confidential atmosphere.

MR ALEX FLETCHER (Edinburgh, North, C)—Who is the target for the softening-up process in the weekend press reports—Parliament, the Labour Party or the rest of the British motor industry?

MR VARLEY—Mr Fletcher trivializes the matter a great deal. We are dealing with a serious industrial problem involving the livelihoods of 25,000 people working in Chrysler and many more in the industry, so that does not help.

MR MOONMAN (Basildon, Lab)—How does this impinge on the Government's general industrial policy, and how does it affect marketing and production in the motor industry? Some of us represent constituencies other than Chrysler constituencies.

MR VARLEY—Tomorrow I shall relate everything I have to say to the Government's industrial strategy and to the motor car industry.

SIR JOHN EDEN (Bournemouth, West, C)—Mr Varley's solution in respect of Chrysler is likely to present a complex picture to the House. It would be more courteous and helpful if he were to give the terms of the proposals he is to make before inviting the House to debate them.

It is important that the Chrysler decision, whatever it may be, is put into context, not only with the CPRS report, but also in the context of the Government's views on the report of the Expenditure Committee. It would be impossible to do justice to these matters if Mr Varley were simply to make a statement during the debate.

Will he do his level best to ensure that the debate is postponed by at least 24 hours to enable MPs to give these matters proper consideration?

MR VARLEY—The timing of the debate is for the Leader of the House (Mr Short). A comprehensive statement will be made and it will be related to the CPRS report, which will be made available tomorrow.

I should be surprised if. (the debate, I did not also re the report of the Select Co tee. If we manage to rea agreement with the C Corporation it would requir we could then debate the ma

MR RAYMOND FLET (Ilkeston, Lab)—If I b everything I read in the w press I would resign the whip this afternoon. The fa not believe everything I r the press, although I write enables me to stay on this the House.

It is the custom of this H debate information converge in the course of debate. Th who wish to be acquainted w facts should attend the debate.

MR Varley—He is righ advice should be taken. MPs be foolish to believe eve they have read in the newsp

MR CROUCH (Canterbur We have had two statemen the front bench which has the House with scant courte can read in the press this w a blueprint—I am quoting The Sunday Times of yeste of the Chrysler solution.

Adverse trade in passenger cars

MR HUCKFIELD (Nuneaton, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Trade for a further statement on motor vehicle exports and imports.

MR SHORE—In the first 11 months of this year import penetration of the British car market was 33.4 per cent compared with 27.1 per cent in the corresponding period in 1974.

During January to November 1975, exports of passenger motor cars was £451.3m compared with imports of £473.6m. This compares with the corresponding period of 1974 of exports of £355.4m and imports of £291.9m.

The composition of our car imports has changed in recent months with the Japanese proportion falling and others rising.

MR HUCKFIELD—Does not that indicate that with passenger cars there is still a disparity between exports and imports on the wrong side of the balance of payments?

Does Mr Shore not agree that since most of the importers have already built up substantial stocks of vehicles in Britain in possible anticipation of import controls, and since British Leyland appear to have seriously underestimated their sales potential, it only serves to underline the Government's case for saving Chrysler?

MR SHORE—The House will not expect me to anticipate anything said about Chrysler. The question of the capacity of British industry and the question of getting our own output up sufficiently to meet demand is of the utmost importance.

We now have a deficit in exchange in trade in passenger motor cars of £22m this year. That represents a considerable and adverse change from what it was last year. This emphasizes the need for continued effort by the British motor car industry and in some cases with the help of Government to get our motor car industry back firmly on its feet.

In other vehicles and components we do still have a favourable and increasing trade balance in our favour.

MR MAXWELL-HYSLOP (Tiverton, C)—When Mr Shore considers pressure for import controls would he bear in mind that the report of the Expenditure Committee shows clearly that Ryder assumed that British Leyland Motor Corporation sales would increase to EEC countries by 95 per cent by 1985?

If Mr Shore should take any action which causes a counter reaction that aborts that 95 per cent increase, widespread unemployment will be caused within BLMC, and public investment in BLMC as well would fail to achieve the objective for which it was put in.

MR SHORE—I am not going to write down the possibilities of an increase in British Leyland exports to Europe. British Leyland have markets in countries other than Western Europe where it has achieved, and will continue to achieve, great success.

CPRS report on the motor vehicle industry

MR PEYTON, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs (Yeovil, C), asked if, in order that they may be of some practical value for tomorrow's debate, the Government would publish before the House rose today the Central Policy Review Staff survey of the motor industry and the Government's answer to the Expenditure Committee's report on British Leyland.

MR MELLISH, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Government Chief Whip (Southwark, Bermondsey, Lab)—The CPRS report will be available for the debate tomorrow. As to the Government's reply to the select committee's report, as I have explained, the Government had to decide on the Chrysler issue before replying. I hope it will be possible to make the Government's observations as soon as possible.

MR PEYTON—When will the CPRS report be available? Mr Mellish evaded that one.

The reply to the Expenditure Committee's report has been awaited for a long time. The need for both documents has been repeatedly acknowledged by the Government and promises have been made.

There is a grave danger that Mr Mellish will be taken and the Government will be taken as treating this problem and those involved in the motor industry with scant disregard and Parliament with contempt. (Conservative cheers.)

MR MELLISH—Only Mr Peyton could have made such a silly observation as that.

I would have thought that the Chrysler situation with its grave impact upon thousands and thousands of jobs warranted the most close consideration by the Government, which is now being given. The Secretary of State for Industry will make a statement tomorrow.

The CPRS report will be available tomorrow at 11 am and the publication of it will be as soon as Mr Varley has made the statement. It has been said again and again that the Government intended to make their statement on the Select Committee report after the Chrysler issue had been decided.

The statement on Chrysler will be made tomorrow. It follows logically that the Government statement will be made after the Chrysler issue has been decided.

MR PEYTON—He may think he can hector to his own backbenchers. (Labour laughter.) The time has come when he should treat Parliament with proper respect.

MR MELLISH—Mr Peyton is living up to his usual standard of stupidity to talk to me like that. He is saying I hectored. I did not do anything of the sort. (Laughter.)

MR DUFFY (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab)—This is not good enough. (Conservative cheers.) We are to have a report from what is in effect a Government department but not a reply to a report of a committee of this House.

Backbenchers will wish never again to see the Government delay a reply to a backbenchers' committee report simply because it may be a little inconvenient or embarrassing. (Conservative cheers.) Discourtesy to a select committee of this House is discourtesy to the House as a whole. (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

MR MELLISH—The cheers Mr Duffy received from the Conservatives are what he evidently sought. The Select Committee's report on the car industry made certain severe criticisms. That report has got to be debated. That I understand and accept.

When the matter of Chrysler came up in the last few weeks it was imperative that this matter should be settled before the Government gave their reply to the Select Committee report on the overall position of the car industry. I would have thought that was logical, honest and decent.

MR RICHARD WAINWRIGHT (Colne Valley, L)—Is this to be the report precisely as received originally from the CPRS revised version resulting fr CPRS being told to have thoughts?

MR MELLISH—What a mind Mr Wainwright ha (Laughter.) The CPRS repo be as it was given to the C ment.

MR WILLIAM HAM (Central Fife, Lab)—It is no for any Government depar to make a reply to a com report within about six m One of the departments mo tantly to blame in this rega when Mr Peyton was in th government and we had t months before we got replie his department.

Will he look at the spee which departments give rep select committees? Often answer is "No" after six or months.

MR MELLISH—I am o (Laughter.) Anything he ma to say about Mr Peyton's p mance would never surprise

MR MAXWELL-HY (Tiverton, C) later unsucce sought an emergency debate need to provide the Hou Commons with the fullest p information relevant to the on the motor vehicle industr cluding the CPRS report, the House adjourned today.

Fight will continue 'all the way'

MR NORMAN FOWLER, chief Opposition spokesman on social services (Sutton Coldfield, C), questioning Mrs Castle on her statement, said: I endorse one thing she said: this is an issue to be decided in Parliament. The arrangement she has announced does nothing to reduce our opposition to her policy, which is both wrong in practice and indefensible in principle. (Conservative cheers.)

As it still remains her declared aim to abolish pay beds, the fact that execution is to be independent is delayed is irrelevant.

Will she confirm that her licensing proposals remain and if they do, how does she justify a position in which the state can intervene to control the size of the private sector and prevent it from developing or flourishing? We will continue in Parliament to fight her all the way on these proposals. (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

MRS CASTLE—I cannot say I ever expected anything else. I recognize his right to fight the proposals just as I accept my right and that of my colleagues to put these proposals to Parliament because we believe in them.

He has misunderstood the purpose of the exercise embodied in the proposals I have just spelled out. The Bill will make it clear that pay beds are to be separate from the NHS. This should be done in such a way as not to damage the interests of those who were wishing to pursue private practice and who had not readily got available facilities not outside the NHS.

These proposals will enable one facility to be phased out, with the opportunity for alternative facilities to be built up. If the opportunity to build up alternative facilities is not reasonably taken the beds will be phased out.

The licensing proposals are a matter for further consultation. It is widely accepted that it would be wrong, pending phasing out, for private development to take place which threatened the wellbeing of the NHS.

This is being further considered in consultations and the possibility being examined of any reserve powers we might have to take being placed in the hands of the board.

MR MacFARQUHAR (Belper, Lab)—In the great metropolises where the resources and demand for private medicine exist in great amount, pay beds will be phased out quickly, but outside the great metropolitan areas where there is not much demand or resources for coping with private beds, pay beds are likely to persist for a long time.

MRS CASTLE—The schedule of phasing beds will be drawn up on the criterium of adequate, suitable and reasonable alternative facilities available. We are likely to find that London has a more plentiful supply of alternative private facilities than some other areas of the country.

As to the length of time it takes to phase out pay beds altogether in areas where private facilities barely exist, that remains to be seen. The independent board will be examining these decisions in the light of the criteria I have laid down.

MR MICHAEL MORRIS (Northampton, South, C)—Is she saying in regard to licensing in the further consultations she is having, that she has withdrawn the relevant paragraph from her consultation paper? Is she also saying that the directive that went out to certain area health authorities saying practitioners in health centres would no longer be able to undertake private practice, is being reconsidered?

MRS CASTLE—The Queen's Speech made clear that the licensing proposals are a matter for further consultations and these have not yet taken place. They will take place and all possible ways in which we might give reasonable safeguards to the NHS so its ability to give service to its patients is not undermined, will be considered.

In regard to the circular about health centres, this misrepresentation of the position has already been scotched. There has never been a circular on the lines Mr Morris is suggesting. At the conference of the family practitioners' committee not many days ago, I made clear that family doctors could continue to see their private patients in the health service.

Willingness

MR PENHALIGON (Truro, L)—Are the consultants with whom she is having consultations prepared to recommend acceptance of this particular document?

MRS CASTLE—The wording I have read out to the House more adequately reflects their point of view; they are going to put these proposals for urgent consideration. (Conservative interruptions.) Unlike some Conservative MPs, I do know something about negotiations. (Renewed interruptions.)

The representatives whom I met this morning expressed a willingness to put these proposals for urgent consideration, while accepting it would be wrong for them to pre-empt the decision of their bodies. I respect their judgment of the right way to handle their side of the discussions following the meeting we had this morning.

I made clear in my statement that the willingness of the Government to embody these proposals in their legislation is conditional upon the proposals being endorsed by the medical and dental professions as a whole and normal working being resumed. Therefore we must wait and see what expression of views are made this week.

MR TUCK (Watford, Lab)—The setting up of this independent board will come as a great relief not only to myself, but a number of other Labour MPs whose names I am not at present allowed even to mention.

Her proposals may decimate the medical population of this country.

MRS CASTLE—The remit of the board will be to phase out pay beds.

MR BRYAN DAVIES (Enfield, North, Lab)—Many of us will view this compromise with a degree of anxiety. Will she accept she is giving the independent boards powers which more appropriately ought to be located in her department?

Is there any chance that members of those boards are nominated not by the medical profession but are drawn from the sectors of society which neither wish nor have the resources to take advantage of private medicine?

MRS CASTLE—The board's activities will remain under the control of Parliament in the sense that the criteria by which they must be guided will be laid down in the legislation in considerable detail and they will be a matter which the House can adjudicate on in detail in any way it wishes.

Fears

MR PAUL DEAN (North Somerset, C)—While we welcome the possible help that the proposed independent board will be able to give, will Mrs Castle recognize that one of the chief fears is that licences will be used as a disguised way to get rid of private practice altogether? In view of that genuine fear, will she consider the possibility of the independent board having a proper function in that regard?

MRS CASTLE—The question of licensing is a matter for further consultation. The Queen's Speech made clear the legislation for phasing out pay beds would go ahead at the earliest possible time and that licensing remains to be further considered.

I said in my statement that one of the matters we shall cover in the consultations would be whether any necessary reserve power, to prevent damage to the NHS, could be embodied in the independent board.

MR CRYER (Keighley, Lab)—We realize Mrs Castle has had many difficulties with the medical profession who are wanting to keep their hands on the lucrative bodies of private patients, but would it not be possible for the board to be effective only as a machine for delaying the eradication of private beds in the NHS?

The ending of separate waiting lists would be considered by the board some six months after legislation. That means the scandal of queue jumping by people who have the money and based not on the criterion of ill-health, will not be brought to an end as quickly as it would have been. It should be for Mrs Castle's department to make a decision.

Is she not concerned that this board will be waiting to establish the amount of investment that is going to take place in private practice? In those circumstances, is it not totally wrong that investment should take place in the private sector at all?

Embodied

MRS CASTLE—Legislation will make clear that the remit of the independent board is to phase out pay beds. The principle of separation will be accepted and embodied in the legislation

Stamping out illegal air fare discounts

MR McCRINDLE (Brentwood and Ongar, C) asked the Secretary of State for Trade to seek additional powers to dissuade airlines and others from discounting schedule fares on airline tickets.

MR CLINTON DAVIS, Under Secretary (Hackney Central, Lab)—The recent court actions have demonstrated that the Government have strong powers to enforce approved fares and rates of commission. Efforts are being made by the trade and the airlines to stamp out illegal discounting.

We have, however, made it plain that if such efforts are not successful, we intend to use these powers. I can assure him that if we find that additional powers are required, we shall have no hesitation in seeking the authority of Parliament to obtain them.

MR McCRINDLE—While the Government are no doubt right to have relied so far on the efforts of the airlines in what is known as "Operation Clean-up", if cheaper air travel is ever to become universally available it is first of all necessary to eliminate illegal discounting taking place.

MR DAVIS—I am obliged to Mr McCrindle for providing some forecasts of what his supplementary question was to be from the article that appeared in The Times this morning. I can give him the assurances he asked for.

From 10% rate of growth to virtual standstill in space of two years

MR CROSLAND, Secretary of State for the Environment (Grimsby, Lab), moving the Rate Support Grant Order 1975 and the Rate Support Grant (Increase) (No 2) Order 1975, be approved, said local government expenditure had increased at a rate far exceeding the growth of resources. It increased by 8 per cent in 1973-74 in real terms compared with a 2.5 per cent increase in gross domestic product and in 1974-76 it increased by 10 per cent compared with an increase of 2 per cent in GDP.

This year the growth in public spending would be less, an increase of about 5 per cent, but this was at a time of world recession, when Britain's GDP was falling.

The critical point was that the disparity between the rate of economic growth and the rate of growth of local spending could not continue. Spending this year was likely to reach a level planned for next year.

Money

In these unprecedented circumstances, he could not hope to find additional money for local government next year. This was why he had had to call for a standstill in local government spending next year.

The implications of the standstill were unpleasant and even harsh because the great bulk of this spending was essential. The authorities would have to define their priorities rigorously and ensure that every penny was spent to the best effect.

They would also have to try to minimize the effects on existing staff, but he saw no reason to expect significant redundancies if authorities used natural wastage when possible. They would need to have continuing talks with employee representatives locally.

At national level for the first time regular meetings had been initiated with the TUC Local Government Committee to discuss manpower implications of Government policies. Quarterly manpower returns would be scrutinized by the Government in partnership with the local authority associations and trade unions. Some expansion might still be occurring.

After last year's financial crisis rate increases of intolerable severity, and the unprecedented rate support grant, the situation next year should be different. They could expect a sharply declining rate of inflation. Their general financial position was much healthier than a year ago, so the Government had decided to reduce the grant to 65.5 per cent.

This brought the aggregate Exchequer grant to £6,842m which, at November 1975 prices, was still an increase of £1,418m on last year's settlement. They would be left with an actual rate support grant itself for 1976-77 of £5,791m.

Next year they had three particular aims. These were to give London a fairer share of the cake, to reflect more fully social needs and those of expanding areas, and to keep the fluctuations in grant distribution within tolerable limits. With hindsight he accepted that London was hard done by in the 1975-76 settlement.

The rate increases next spring would be substantially lower than those this spring. The reaction to this year's settlement had been subdued but not basically hostile.

There was no area of similar size where they could point to a comparable achievement of changing from a rate of growth of over 10 per cent per annum to a virtual standstill in the space of two years.

We have (he said) brought the rate situation under control. After the chaos and crises of the years 1973 and 1974 local government finances are now in a far healthier position and the public can face next year's rate increases with reasonable equanimity. The whole picture has been transformed from the one we inherited in February, 1974.

By setting up the Layfield committee, whose report he expected to receive early in the new year, the Government had focused attention on the long term future.

There was a common misconception about the rate burden. The average domestic rate bill was 2.71 per cent of personal disposable income in 1938, 1.92 per cent in 1955, 2.24 per cent in 1964 and 2.49 per cent last year—still lower than in 1938.

The issue was not simply one of a tax base for local spending. It was also, and even more, one of the use of resources. This year the Government had kept much more closely in touch with local authorities.

Expenditure

The 1976-77 settlement had for the first time been directly related to the Government's public expenditure plans and only minor modifications had been made to the figures laid down as long ago as the April Budget. The Government wanted to build on this advance by involving local authorities in their expenditure planning for future years.

This rate support grant order was both a fair settlement for the year ahead and a further step in the right direction for the long term.

MR RAISON, Opposition spokesman on the environment (Aylesbury, C), said that Mr Crosland's attempt to provide some reassurance to the ratepayer looked unconvincing. It would be surprising if in a year's time they were able to congratulate themselves on an easy year for the ratepayer.

There was a grave situation in local government finance and they had first to recognize that the present system was unacceptai many areas.

The rate of increase in the had made them peculiarly in able. On top of that they capricious and unfair in their dence and fundamentally wer related to people's incomes.

The way the rate support g was used as an instrument of r tribution between areas ign the fact that apparently ri areas, the so-called prospe home counties, contained plen poor people. One difficulty a any kind of system of distribu resources on a geographical r than an income basis was th was unfair.

Reallocation

The annual reallocation of elements in the rate support g order contained difficulties. T was a risk of political jiggery ery in relation to elections an fact that there were changes year added to the feeling tha system was unfair. This year London's turn to gain. He di grumble about that but the tion was getting hard for the metropolitan counties.

The idea that they had a f of nil growth ahead was just joke. The truth was that the metropolitan counties were an inevitable reduction in sea There was too little allowan those areas which had incr populations.

Although the system had thing to do with the current the problem went deeper. due firstly to the Govern failure to control inflatio secondly, to some profligat the part of local governme considerable profligacy on th of national government. Th ernment's economic policy February, 1974, onwards ha irresponsible to the point o edness.

Mr Crosland should say that they could not allow expenditure to be maintai the increasing level of the l years and that national an government would collapse went on.

Mr Crosland should tell local authorities that pilin on to the rates did not er the poor. It was not selfish to hold down rates. Local ties must economize. Thi indicated a bleaker outloo the tone of the Governme gested.

Bill to end difficulty of buying drinks at dances

House of Lords

LORD HARMAR-NICHOLLS (C), moving the second reading of the Licensing (Amendment) Bill, said it dealt with a narrow technical point, the consequences of which could be a risk to the continued employment of some 200,000 people in the hotel and catering industry as well as musicians and artists.

A law Lords ruling as a result of an appeal had given a legal meaning to words which, he maintained, was not what Parliament had in mind. It would mean that when licences were granted by magistrates for extending drinking hours at functions the drinks could only be served by waiters.

The legal meaning of a subsection, as interpreted by the Law Lords was that no one could purchase their drink direct from the seller, but only through waiter service to their table.

LORD HARRIS of GREENWICH Minister of State, Home Office, said the practice had grown up in premises covered by special hours certificates of serving drinks direct to customers over bar counters.

The recent judgment had been widely interpreted as meaning that bar service to customers was excluded and that the previous interpretation put on the Licensing Act had been wrong.

Most owners of late-night entertainment premises, as well as police forces, regarded the judgment as having widespread application, and it was considered that the livelihood of many of those employed in the industry might be at stake.

The Government took seriously the representations on the numbers likely to be laid off as redundant because of the implications of the judgment. They accepted that the new situation had given rise to widespread inconvenience and resentment.

Government legislation should be in the context of any legislation introduced following consideration of the Erroll Committee report. There would be no opportunity for a Government Bill on such a substantial issue this session.

If Lord Harmar-Nicholls's Bill found favour with the House he could not forecast its prospects in the Commons but the Government would not oppose its passage there if private members' time could be found.

The Bill was read a second time.

Press report by end of January

MR AITKEN (Thanet, East, C) asked when the Secretary of State for Trade expected to receive the study on the immediate problems of the newspaper industry which he had requested from the Royal Commission on the Press.

MR SHORE—I understand that the Royal Commission is aiming to provide the report on the immediate problems facing national newspapers by the end of January, 1976.

I believe we can get a report from them by the end of January. We shall give it the closest attention as soon as we get it.

Policy must stress need to revive world trade

MR TIMOTHY RENTON (Mid Sussex, C) asked what international discussions the Secretary of State for Trade proposed to have regarding the achievement of the Rambouillet commitment to the maintenance of an open trading system.

MR SHORE (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab)—We shall continue to play a constructive part in the international organizations concerning trade and we shall in particular work for a substantial measure of liberalization in the Gatt multilateral trade negotiations.

MR RENTON—Would Mr Short confirm that following the Prime Minister's meeting at Rambouillet and his own recent speeches, he is himself opposed to import controls? If extensive import controls are introduced later on would he, unlike the Secretary of State for Industry (Mr Varley) have the courage to stick to his guns and resign?

MR SHORE—I shall ignore the latter part of that question. (Conservative interruptions.) I am in no doubt that Mr Varley will have an opportunity to say what he thinks about the matter and the remarks Mr Renton made.

As for my own position; of course I am not opposed in principle to the use of import controls. There are circumstances, well understood, well entrenched in international economic law, when import controls are useful and helpful.

But at present—I have made no bones about it—the great need for the world is to increase and revive world trade and with it world production, and that is where the stress and thrust of policy must be.

MR HIGGINS, Opposition spokesman on trade (Worthing, C)—Will Mr Shore give an assurance that the Government will take no action on import controls which will in any way infringe any of our international obligations?

MR SHORE—International law does provide a number of opportunities and circumstances in which it is accepted that import controls can be used. I do not think I need go beyond that.

MR STANLEY (Tonbridge and Malling, C)—In view of his equivocal replies on import controls, would he agree that as a matter of general principle it is far better to remove our balance of payments deficit by giving encouragement to British companies in the export market rather than seek the illusion of security behind import controls?

MR SHORE—If we could solve our balance of payments problems with the expansion of our exports, that is the preferable solution. Nobody would doubt that, but clearly we can only do that if world trade is expanding and that is the point we have emphasized over and over again.

Hope of fair hearing on Concorde in USA

MR ADLEY (Christchurch and Lymington, C) asked the Secretary of State for Trade for a statement on current negotiations concerning Concorde in which his department was involved.

MR CLINTON DAVIS, Under Secretary—Negotiations are being vigorously pursued so that the scheduled services can start as planned, and statement will be made at the appropriate times.

MR ADLEY—Does he agree with the Wall Street Journal that the anti-Concorde industry in the United States is involving itself in what the newspaper describes as the meanest kind of politics?

If so, and if New York decides to ban Concorde for spurious environmental reasons, British trade unionists are entitled to consider retaliatory action against the Port of New York Authority by ensuring that goods exported by air and sea from New York may be subject to appropriate political delays on entering this country.

MR CLINTON DAVIS—It is more profitable to deal in facts rather than epithets on this important issue. We hope we shall get a fair hearing in Washington starting on January 5. As a result of that, we have reason to believe that we shall not have to deal in questions of retaliation.

MR BIFFEN (Oswestry, C)—In the talks on flight routes for Concorde, have over-flying routes been requested from India? If so, what answer has been receied?

MR CLINTON DAVIS—We are continuing talks with the India Government and it would not be profitable to go further now.

Bill to ratify Europe patent convention

MR ENGLISH (Nottingham, West, Lab) asked whether the Secretary of State for Trade proposed this session to bring in a measure to reform the United Kingdom patent law or whether he would bring in during the session a short Bill which would enable the Government to ratify pending international patent conventions by the promised dates.

MR CLINTON DAVIS, Under Secretary (Hackney, Central, Lab)—I am aware that ratification by the United Kingdom of the European Patent Convention at the end of 1976 is important for British interests and the Secretary of State intends to introduce a comparatively short Bill to enable this as soon as circumstances permit.

Further legislation will be necessary to enact the White Paper proposals for patent law reform and to permit ratification of the Patent Cooperation Treaty and of the Community Patent Convention which is being signed in Luxembourg today.

Due to pressure of parliamentary business it will not be possible to introduce this more comprehensive legislation during the present session.

MR ENGLISH—When he says as soon as circumstances permit, can he be precise and say that will be in time for us to have English representatives in the European Patent Office at Munich?

After eight years of discussion there must be something wrong in our system if we are not there.

MR DAVIS—We hope to be able to introduce legislation if at all possible within the current session. I am aware of the need for this legislation and of the handicaps that will arise for our re atives at the European Office if we do not have th lation.

MR BELL (Beaconsfield He should beware of repe reforms as lamentable ne The Banks Committee rec dation is to import the concept of obviousness int law. This is regarded country as impracticable separate enforcement proc litigation in, say, Germa infringement litigation country in which the alleg ingement has take place legality of bedlam.

MR DAVIS—I do not ac views. The Banks Commit forward a variety of prop which we would seek to en comprehensive Bill. This have included a number of versial aspects.

Parliamentary not

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Outstanding Debate on the motor industry to approve Privileges Committee on Mr Knight and Mr Sche "The Economist".

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Hare Coun second reading. Road Traffic Ages and Hours of Work; S mittee stage.

Retirement colonies not burden on West Country survey finds

By a Staff Reporter

The environment and climate of the West Country have proved to draw newly retired people to the area for many years, but they are not an economic burden to the region, a report on retirement to the south-west, published yesterday, states.

The report, by the South West Economic Planning Council, deals with the economic outcome of retirement to the area and not the social aspects. It was undertaken by Mr I. R. Gordon, of Kent University, at the council's request.

It shows that the retirement figures much less in the region than had been supposed. If present trends continue, the number of those retired to move into the region on retirement as distinct from the indigenous retired might amount to about 155,000 by the end of the century, against 75,000 in 1971. That is a considerably slower growth than that of the whole regional population.

The study shows that many of the difficulties created by retired people who move in can be offset by their contribution to the regional economy in the form of personal spending and provision of jobs dependent on them.

A sizable proportion of the additional retired men in the region have higher average personal incomes than those of retired people generally.

The study estimates that the incomes of "additional retireds" account for about 5 per cent of total personal income in the South-west, while their expenditure adds £54m annually to the income of local communities (compared with £115m annually for the region's holiday industry) and that about 44,000 jobs depend on them.

The report shows there was a 5 per cent annual growth in the numbers of incoming retirement to Devon and Cornwall during the past 20 years, making that group one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy. The four main areas of increase were south-east Dorset, Exeter-east Devon, south-east Devon and west Cornwall.

The main demands on public services by the additional retired people are in health and welfare. The employment generated in those secoors provided jobs for young people who might otherwise have moved away.

The report states that it is argued that concentrations of elderly people create pressure on resources, lowering of standards of care, and may impose inequitable financial burdens on the community.

It adds: "But it may be simply that concentrations of old people make existing inadequacies in the services or inequalities in their mode of finance more publicly visible."

Retirement to the South-west (Stationery Office, £1).

Island's drive to beat inflation

From Our Correspondent
St Peter Port

After several months' talks with local unions, employers, traders and other bodies, Guernsey's advisory and Finance Committee yesterday started a campaign to win the support of all sections of the community for a voluntary counter-inflation programme.

"The island is no longer in a position to 'go it alone' where inflation is concerned, for the rate of inflation is now so high that it is posing a serious threat to the island's social and economic fabric", the committee stated.

Among measures proposed by the finance committee are the setting up of a department of consumer affairs and a prices panel, improved social insurance benefits with income-related family allowances, and rent control.

The proposed department would issue regular shopping guides for housewives together with a "shopping basket" price index that would also deal with day-to-day complaints.

In return the committee wants workers to settle for a maximum increase of £6 in basic wages at their next primary pay review and to let the agreement run for 12 months without interim awards.

It rejects the idea of food subsidies on the grounds that they would cost £500,000 a year while reducing the cost of living by only 0.75 per cent.

Variations in horsepower: An old Manchester to Edinburgh coach, with its team of Welsh cobs, looks down on its more powerful successors on the M6 at Penrith.

Commission to study election of MPs

By a Staff Reporter

A commission has been set up to examine the system of election to the House of Commons. It will also look at any alternative methods of election to the House as well as "possible systems of election for any devolved legislative assemblies that may be established within the United Kingdom".

The commission, under the auspices of the Hansard Society for Parliamentary Government, is chaired by Lord Blake. Members are Sir Jack Callard; Professor Ralf Dahrendorf; Mr Miles Hudson; Mr Gwyn Morgan; Lord O'Neill of the Maine; Mr Paul Rose, MP; Lady Seears and Mr Richard Wood, MP.

When the commission, which is due to report in the summer, considers possible Scottish assemblies, it will be served by Mr Peter Balfour and Professor J. D. B. Mitchell.

Written information may be sent to Lord Blake at the Hansard Society, 12 Gower Street, London, WC1E 6DP.

Skim milk plan upsets feed manufacturers

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Compounders of animal feed protested yesterday at an EEC plan to make them include skim milk in livestock rations. The plan was announced last week as a means of reducing the Community's "mountain" of skim milk.

Mr Lardinois, Commissioner for Agriculture, wants farm ministers of member states to make compounders include one fiftieth of skim milk powder in their rations.

Mr Kenneth Arnott, chairman of the raw materials committee of the Compound Animal Feeding Stuffs Manufacturers' National Association, said: "It seems to us utterly wrong that the compound industry should have to suffer the consequences of past policies over which it has no control and for which it is in no way responsible.

"The proposals constitute a quite unacceptable interference in the formulation of our products."

British compounders are particularly upset by the plan as this country has one of the smaller "mountains" of skim milk in the Community and relies on imports of dairy products more than any other member state.

Mr Arnott, as president of the European Federation of Feed Manufacturers (Fefac), has written to Mr Lardinois to say that the inclusion of skim milk powder would raise the price of feed by 6 per cent.

"This is a harsh penalty on the dairy farmer. But it is manifestly unjust that the feeder of pigs and poultry should be obliged to subsidize a sector with which he is not concerned."

Export plea: An appeal for British farm exporters to be allowed to compete on equal terms with those in other countries was made yesterday by Lord Glenkinglas, chairman of the British Agricultural Export Council. He said farm exports from Britain would be worth about £1,200m this year, and although the figure was well deserved it should be a great deal higher.

If British exporters were to compete on a fair basis they needed the same help with the costs of transport and prevention of disease as those in other countries.

More children getting free school meals

By a Staff Reporter

Almost 35,000 more children received free school meals in October than 12 months earlier, Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in a Commons written reply yesterday.

He said that 5,893,000 children in maintained schools in England and Wales took school meals in October compared with 5,773,000 in October, 1974. However, the proportion remained constant at a fraction over 70 per cent. Children who received free meals numbered 784,000, compared with 750,000 a year earlier and their percentage of the total crept up from 13 to 13.5. There was also an increase in the number of children bringing their own food to school, from 458,000 to 517,000.

Mr Mulley also said that almost two million children entitled to free school milk on the ground of age were receiving it. A further 54,000 primary school children over the age of seven were receiving free milk on the ground of health.

Decree for Nina

Frederik, Baron Van Pallandt, who has a farm on the island of Ibiza, consented in London yesterday to the decree granted to Nina, his former singing partner, on the ground that they had lived apart for more than two years.

Correction

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton Pavilion, C) voted against the motion to restore the death penalty in the House of Commons last Thursday.

lan to make newcomers o Guernsey register

in Our Correspondent
Peter Port

Under legislation that comes for final approval by local s tomorrow, a newcomer to ernsey who intends to ome "ordinarily resident" the island will have to reg- with the housing auth- y within 90 days of his ival.

nyone providing accommo- ion for such a person, ether in a private house or , lodging house, or hotel or st house, will also have to ify the authority.

he measure, due to come force on February 1, is igned to reinforce the nd's housing regulations, ich have come to serve in- asingly as a form of immi- tion control. They require a -islander to obtain a licence occupy any accommodation rt from a registered pool of e expensive properties.

practice, since Guernsey no immigration check on ivals from the mainland, it proved impossible to force the housing law. Some iticians maintain that as ny as two thousand people living illegally in the nd.

Local families looking for homes, and Guernsey-born people who have lost their residential qualifications and now have to queue for permission to return to their native island, feel resentful.

There has been growing pressure from MPs for the introduction of work permits. Some feel that if Guernsey is to achieve its avowed aim of limiting population growth to 7 per cent over the next 10 years the time has come to exercise "proper" immigration control by means of port checks.

A revised housing law effective from January 1 aims at building up an increasingly indigenous population.

The present system of defining a local resident as someone who lived in Guernsey between January, 1938, and June, 1957, and also on a certain day in 1968, is to be phased out. Instead, the criterion will be simply to have been born and lived most of one's life in the island.

In line with that policy, Mr Brian Joy, president of the housing authority, has promised to allow back more Guernsey-born families as fewer non-islanders are admitted.

£750 sought for girl's death in Manx fire

In a test case brought in the Manx High Court at Douglas yesterday a judge was asked to fix £750 as the sum to be paid in damages to the estate of a Liverpool girl, aged 13, who died in the Summerland entertainments centre fire in the Isle of Man in August, 1973.

Mr Neil Hanson, counsel, told the court: "The sum of £750 is now the conventional figure in cases of this type."

Mr Hanson appeared for Mrs Mavis Elizabeth Gregory, administratrix of the estate of June Cheetham, who brought the claim against Trust Houses Forte Leisure Ltd and Summerland Ltd. He said Trust Houses Forte was the tenant of Summerland which was operated by its Isle of Man subsidiary, Summerland Ltd.

Mr Barry Stanley, for the defendant companies, submitted that the accepted damages figure for expectation of life in a child was £500 and not £750. He said: "In my view this matter should be taken as an average case with no exceptional circumstances, and an award of £500 should be the figure."

Mr Hanson said the girl and her parents, Richard and Elizabeth Cheetham, of Bracknell Avenue, Southdene, Kirkby, Liverpool, visited Summerland on the night of Thursday, August 2, 1973. They and 47 other people died in the fire.

He added: "Liability is admitted for the purposes of this action by the defendants. The only matter to be decided by the court is the quantum of damages for loss of expectation of life. It is in effect a test case on that point."

Deemster Robert Eason reserved judgment after hearing legal argument.

Plaid Cymru proposes subsidy for newspapers

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

The setting-up of a Welsh Assembly will demand fuller and more critical newspaper coverage of Welsh affairs, Plaid Cymru says in evidence to the Royal Commission on the Press. It recommends that the Government should provide money to help newspapers in Wales to expand and improve to meet "the exciting challenge" of devolution.

"The Welsh Assembly will need a critical press as much as an effective opposition" Mr Dafydd Elis Thomas, MP for Merioneth, said yesterday, when Plaid Cymru's submission was published.

"London-based papers will no longer meet Welsh needs. With one or two distinguished exceptions, their record in covering Welsh affairs has been abysmal."

Plaid Cymru says newspapers throughout Britain should have their postal and telecommunications charges subsidized by the Government, and asks the commission to examine Norway's system.

The party calls for the replacement of the Official Secrets Act with a law guaranteeing public access to all state documents except those concerned with security and personal integrity. It urges the commission to consider worker co-ownership of newspapers.

Plaid Cymru says that Wales has a higher daily newspaper readership than England, and envisages greater demand for news and analysis when the Welsh assembly is established.

It proposes a five-year government subsidy to assist a circulation increase for the *Western Mail* in North Wales and the *Liverpool Daily Post* in South Wales.

It calls for aid to enable the Welsh-language press to expand. The weekly *Y Cymro* should appear twice weekly, it suggests, as a step towards becoming a daily, and there should be Sunday newspapers in English and in Welsh. The Government should allot more advertising to the Welsh-language press.

The evidence quotes Mr David Cole, managing director of Thomson Regional Newspapers Ltd, who said last year that it was his ambition to see a Sunday newspaper in Wales set up within five years.

Net rejected as possible clue to Gaul mystery

The Department of Trade yesterday ruled out a link between a trawl net found off Norway and the missing Hull trawler, the Gaul.

A department official said: "The trawl net found on the sea bed off Norway and sent to Britain to see if it had been carried by the Gaul has now been examined by representatives of British United Trawlers, the owners of the Gaul, and it has been definitely rejected as having been carried by the Gaul.

"It is a Grantham trawl, a type of net carried by the Gaul and her sister ship, but it has been rejected by a number of different people on a number of different points."

The Gaul disappeared in February last year with her crew of 36. Only a lifebuoy was found. An official inquiry concluded that the boat was sunk by heavy waves.

Tridentine Mass 'solution' found

Father Oswald Baker, parish priest at St Dominic's, Downham Market, Norfolk, who was removed by his bishop a month ago for refusing to stop saying the 1570 Tridentine Mass, spoke yesterday of "an amicable and practical solution to a very tricky situation".

He said that from January 1 Father Anthony Sketch would move into the church and say the new English Mass and that from the first Sunday of 1976 he himself would say the old Mass in the town hall assembly room.

Law Report December 15 1975 Court of Appeal

ump sum awarded out of ex-husband's undisclosed assets

isz v Weisz

re Lord Justice Stamp, Sir don Willmer and Sir John nycuick
lgments delivered Dec 12]

hen a husband has shown a rmination not to pay anything his wife unless compelled to so and has tried to conceal capital and the amount of his me, it is a proper exercise the powers conferred by the rimonial Causes Act, 1973, to r him to transfer to the wife e-quarters of the value of the tal assets.

he Court of Appeal, Sir John nycuick dissenting, dismissed appeal by Dr Ivan Weisz from order of Judge Pickering, sit- as a judge of the Family sion, that he should transfer is former wife, Mrs Margaret abeth Weisz, a dress designer, his interest in the former rimonial home in Lawrence et, Chelsea, and in addition her a lump sum of £10,038, ch included £1,038 which he misappropriated from her.

r Brian Warner (who did not ear below) for the husband; Kenneth Wheeler for the wife.

ORD JUSTICE STAMP said in 1948, when the couple ved in England, the husband ived a grant to enable him to n for a medical qualification the wife went out to work as dressmaker. There were two dren of the marriage, a ghter born in 1947 and a son n in 1949. The daughter suf- d from an illness requiring ular treatment in hospital, but could still live with her mother periods.

he husband, who qualified as octor in 1955, was struck off register in 1962 for canvassing patients of other doctors. He restored in 1965. During that od the wife set up business her own account as a dress gner. She provided the main ncial support of the family kept up the rent of the hus- d's former surgery. After his oration to the register he mmenced practising from pre- es in Darnley Road, Hackney. 1967 the freehold of the se in Lawrence Street was ght as the matrimonial home £11,850 with the aid of a rtgage of £10,000. It was a dition of the mortgage that considerable sum should be nt on repairs and improve- nts; the wife made a consider- e contribution to that additional enditure. Although the house registered in the husband's name, the judge found that had been agreed between the ties that it should belong to m in equal shares. The house s now worth £24,000 and the standing mortgage was £4,200. n October, 1969, the wife was mpelled to leave the matri- nial home because of her hus- d's persistent attacks on her. e rented a flat in Onslow uare, where she lived with her and could also provide a me for her daughter when she s allowed out of hospital. Since at date the husband had contri- ted nothing towards the living penses of the wife and daughter.

The rent of the flat had risen from a comparatively modest sum to £872 a year exclusive of rates. In 1973 the husband misappropriated £1,038 representing the surrender value of a policy of life insurance belonging to the wife.

The wife was granted a divorce on February 1, 1974, on the ground of the husband's unreasonable behaviour, and on July 19, 1974, he was served with a notice requiring him to give full particulars of his property and income. He did not do so, and in consequence, the hearing of the wife's application for ancillary relief could not be concluded until July 30, 1975.

At that hearing, at which the husband appeared in person, the judge said that it was clear that he would not contribute anything for his wife or his disabled daughter unless compelled to do so. Moreover, the husband was a thoroughly dishonest man, and it had taken two hearings, in addition to some ex parte proceedings, to extract from him that he owned two more houses and a bank account which he had not disclosed. The husband had sworn an affidavit that his gross earnings amounted to only £7,000 a year but they were at least £12,000.

It had been established that the husband owned two additional properties, one in Hove, the other in Rottingdean. He had bought the first in 1970 with a mortgage which had been repaid. Its present value was £15,000. He bought the Rottingdean property in 1973, following the misappropriation of the proceeds of his wife's insurance policy. Its present value was £13,250, on which there was an outstanding mortgage of £10,000, leaving an equity of £3,250.

The situation, therefore, was that the husband held in his name the former matrimonial home valued at £24,000, but subject to a mortgage of £4,200 and two houses valued at £15,000 and £3,250. He also had living accommodation in his surgery premises. The wife had to pay rent of £872 a year exclusive of rates. Her earnings from her business amounted to £700 a year. She had no capital and was heavily in debt to her bank.

The judge was clearly right to order a transfer to the wife of the husband's interest in the matrimonial home. That would provide her with a roof over her head while leaving the husband with living accommodation in his surgery premises. But that alone would not suffice to meet the wife's needs because she would be left with the burden of repaying the outstanding mortgage of £4,200 and the heavy bank overdraft.

The judge might have awarded the wife periodical payments sufficient to meet those liabilities in addition to providing her living expenses. But, instead, he awarded her a lump payment equivalent to one half of the combined value of the Hove and Rottingdean properties and ordered the husband to repay the £1,038 which he had misappropriated. The effect was to give the wife three-quarters of the capital assets, which would have been too much if she had also received one-third of the joint income. The husband was left with nearly five-sixths of the joint income and the wife with only one-sixth.

That was a proper solution of the problem presented by the facts of the case.

Where a husband would do anything to avoid payments to his wife and steadfastly refused to disclose particulars of his financial situation to a point of disobeying orders of the court, an order for periodical payments not only occasioned the bitterness to which Lord Denning drew attention in *Wachtel v. Wachtel* ([1973] Fam 72) but also caused the worry, anxiety and expense inseparable from legal proceedings to enforce payments. An order which in the circumstances of the case was calculated to produce a running legal battle extending over years should, so far as might be fair, be discarded in favour of one which secured finality.

His Lordship could see nothing unfair in the course adopted by the judge and would dismiss the appeal.

Sir Gordon Willmer delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Stamp.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK said that he agreed that it was proper to order the transfer of the former matrimonial home to the wife, but he did not think it just to grant the wife additional capital apart from the £1,038. The equity in the matrimonial home represented a little more than half of the total capital assets, and his Lordship did not see how it could be just to award the wife a larger share.

On the income figures, the wife might have been awarded £3,500 a year for herself, in addition to £600 a year for the daughter. The judge's order gave her only £1,500 a year; but she had not cross-appealed against the order for periodical payments. The question therefore arose as to whether the excessive capital sum of £9,000 could be justified as a counter to the deficiency in periodical payments. His Lordship would answer in the negative. The discretion conferred by the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, to award periodical payments, a lump sum and a transfer of property was a single discretion. Periodical payments and capital provisions were not to be regarded in isolation from each other, and the judge had a wide latitude in deciding how the husband's burden should be distributed. Nevertheless the judge was bound to hold a fair balance between income and capital and was not entitled to throw the burden on one or other indiscriminately on a "swings and round-about" principle.

The one-third of income and one-third of capital basis of distribution mentioned by Lord Denning in *Wachtel*, although only a guideline, indicated that income and capital should be treated separately and each should be – fairly dealt with. It was wrong to adopt a quasi-punitive approach in exercising the discretion conferred by the Matrimonial Causes Act. However much a husband might have forfeited the right to consideration, at the end of the day what the court must seek to attain was justice.

His Lordship would allow the appeal to the extent of reducing the lump sum from £9,000 to £2,000.

Solicitors: Lorenz & Co; Markbys.

Deception: honest belief a defence

Regina v Lewis

A representation by which property was obtained, if genuinely believed in, would afford a defence to a charge of obtaining property by deception, and a direction in a summing up that the belief had to be on reasonable grounds was wrong, Lord Justice Lawton said in the Court of Appeal.

The court dismissed an appeal by Joseph George Lewis, a Canadian travel agent, against a conviction at Inner London Crown Court (Judge Layton) of obtaining property by deception and obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception, contrary to sections 15(1) and 16(1) of the Theft Act, 1968.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON, who was sitting with Mr Justice Talbot and Mr Justice Pain, said that the trial judge included in his summing up a passage from *Archbold* (38th ed, 1973, para 1533): "... (3) a person who passed a cheque on an account in which there were no immediate funds to meet it did not necessarily act dishonestly if he genuinely believed on reasonable grounds that when the cheque was presented for payment, there would be funds to meet it." The passage was based on *Halstead v Patel* ([1972] 1 WLR 661).

Since then, however, the Court of Appeal had reached the decision in *R v Feely* ([1973] QB 530) that, for the purposes of the Theft Act, the concept of dishonesty was subjective and had nothing to do with reasonable belief. In *R v Roy* (October 24, 1974, unreported) the Court of Appeal specifically ruled that the test was genuine belief and not belief on reasonable grounds.

As the judge made only one slip, and there was no hesitation in saying that no reasonable jury properly directed could have come to any other conclusion, the appeal would be dismissed.

Ambassador in court

Mr Elliot Richardson, the retiring United States Ambassador in London and a former United States Attorney General, sat with the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ormrod and Lord Justice Shaw) during the hearing of an appeal.

£4,000 plus Appointments

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Department of Museum Services

KEEPER OF THE FIELD SECTION

Salary £4,689-£5,250 PO1(A)

Applications are invited from graduates with relevant professional experience to lead a small section *responsible for maintaining the County's Sites and* Monuments Record. Duties include the supervision of field survey documentation, publication and the running of an enquiry service. *The Keeper is directly involved* in the provision of advice to both County and District Planning Authorities. The section works closely in conjunction with the independent Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit which is responsible for all excavation in the County.

Applicants should have a broad interest in the history of the landscape and have sound experience of recording sites and buildings. He/she must be able to deal effectively with requests for advice on planning and other environmental matters.

Further details may be obtained from the Director of Museum Services, Oxfordshire County Museum, Fletcher's House, Woodstock OX7 1SN to whom completed applications should be returned by 30th January, 1976.

University of Oxford

CLINICAL READERSHIP IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

The University proposes to appoint a Clinical Reader in Orthopaedic Surgery from 1 July, 1976 in the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, with responsibilities in both the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Accident Service. The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre has 50 beds for adult and children's work including special interests in scoliosis, haemophilia and rheumatology.

The reader will establish research programmes and participate in undergraduate and post graduate teaching.

The reader will be eligible for an honorary consultant contract with the Oxfordshire Area Health Authority (Teaching).

Salary (with honorary consultant contract) on scale £7,536-£10,689 according to qualifications and experience.

Applications (5 copies) together with the names of two referees, should be sent by 17 January to Professor R. B. Duthie, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford, OX3 7LD, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

for person preferably with experience in Charity to undertake evaluation for large Foundation of Charitable needs and grants. Salary negotiable in the range £4,000-£7,000 p.a. Apply Director, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent.

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Application form from Personnel Manager, London Borough of Hammersmith, Hammersmith House (BOG Building), Black's Road, W6 9EG (01-748 2077, Ext. 59), quoting reference BS.6. Closing date January 2nd, 1975.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Nairobi
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

(a) PROFESSOR. Applicants, who should possess a PhD, must have relevant teaching and research experience in Agricultural Economics. The appointee will be responsible *for further development* of the undergraduate curriculum. The department administers an MSc programme in Agricultural Marketing and it is also expected that the appointee will develop new MSc programmes. (b) SENIOR LECTURER. Applicants must possess a PhD and should *have a strong* orientation towards operations research and or econometrics. The appointee will be expected *to carry out research* and to teach these subjects both at the graduate and undergraduate levels and contribute to the Department's research programme. Experience in the planning and supervision of research is essential. (c) SENIOR LECTURER. Applicants must possess a PhD in either economics or Agricultural Marketing. The appointee will be expected to initiate, implement and supervise research work of [illegible] students in Agricultural [illegible] or Agricultural Economics in addition to undergraduate teaching.

Salary Scales: (a) K£4,200-[illegible] p.a. (b) [illegible] p.a. [illegible] sterling). The British Government may *supplement* salary in range [illegible] p.a. (sterling) for married appointees or [illegible] p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (normally *free of all tax*) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. FSSU. *Family passages*: various allowances. Detailed applications (2 copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees should be sent by air mail not later than 9th January 1976 to the Registrar (Recruitment and Training), University of Nairobi, PO Box [illegible], Nairobi, Kenya. Applicants resident in UK should also send 1 copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

Business to Business

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

PENANG PORT COMMISSION

TENDER NOTICE

Design and Construction of Berthing and Fire-Fighting Tug

The Penang Port Commission *invites* applications from experienced Shipbuilders for the design, construction and delivery to Penang, West Malaysia, of one (1) Diesel-Engined Twin Screw Fixed Kort Nozzles Harbour Berthing and Fire-fighting Tug of all welded steel construction having the following dimensions:—

Length Overall (excluding fenders) 105ft. 0ins.
Breadth Moulded .... 28ft. 0ins.
Depth Moulded .... 13ft. 0in.

Applications should reach the Secretary, Penang Port Commission, P.O. Box 143, Penang, Malaysia or or before 31st December 1975 together with a deposit of M$500/- (Malaysian Dollars Five Hundred only) and accompanied by evidence of the Builder's technical and financial abilities to execute the works and also particulars of works of similar nature undertaken and *successfully completed.*

Formal invitations to tender accompanied by tender documents, drawings and Guidance Specifications will be issued to approved applicants early *in 1976* and three months will be allowed for tendering. The deposits of firms whose applications are not approved will be refunded in due course and the deposits of approved tenderers will be refunded on receipt of a bona fide tender, and all tender documents specified to be returned.

The Penang Port Commission does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender nor will the Commission be responsible for any costs incurred by the tenderers in making their tenders.

Secretary,
Penang Port Commission

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003864 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Mr [illegible] Dearbergh In the Matter of WALMSLEY (BURY) Limited and In the matter of the Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated the 5th December 1975 made in the above matters the Court has directed separate meetings of the holders of (1) the Ordinary Shares (other than those wholly and beneficially owned by [illegible] Corporation) and (2) the [illegible] *ference Shares* respectively of the above named Company (hereinafter called "the Company") to be convened for the purpose of considering and if thought fit approving (with or without modification) a SCHEME of ARRANGEMENT proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of its said classes of shares and that such meetings will be held at the Bury Trustee Savings Bank, Silver Street, Bury, Lancashire on Wednesday the 14th day of January 1976 at the respective times mentioned, namely:—

(1) the meeting of the holders of the Ordinary Shares (other than those wholly and beneficially owned by [illegible] Corporation) at 11.45 in the forenoon (or [illegible] thereafter as the [illegible] Annual General Meeting of the Company convened for the same day and place shall have been concluded or adjourned); and

(ii) the meeting of the holders of the Preference Shares at 11.50 o'clock in the forenoon (or so soon thereafter as the preceding meeting shall have been concluded or adjourned);

at which place and respective times all the aforesaid Shareholders are requested to attend.

ANY person entitled to attend the said Meetings can obtain copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, forms of Proxy and copies of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 207 of the above mentioned Act at the registered office of the Company at Atlas Works, Bury, Lancs BL8 2OT and at the office of the under-mentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holiday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meetings.

THE SAID SHAREHOLDERS MAY VOTE IN PERSON AT THE SAID MEETINGS [illegible] ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND THEY MAY APPOINT [illegible] PERSON WHETHER A MEMBER OF THE COMPANY OR NOT AS THEIR PROXY TO ATTEND AND VOTE IN THEIR STEAD.

IN the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members in respect of the joint holding.

It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged at the registered office of the Company situate at Atlas Works, Bury, Lancashire BL8 2OT not less than [illegible] hours before the time appointed for the said Meetings but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman at the Meetings at which they are to be used.

BY the said Order the Court has appointed Alan Green or failing him William Judson Binns or failing him Thomas Dickson Walker to act as Chairman of each of the said Meetings and has directed the Chairman to report the results thereof to the Court.

THE said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated the 11th day of December 1975.

LINKLATERS & PAINES (CWG), Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7JA. Solicitors for the Company.

BUSINESS NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

COUNTER-INFLATION ACT 1973 (1973 c.9) NOTICE
(under section 6(2) and (3))
To: GRAYSTON LTD Riverside Road London SW17

The Price Commission in exercise of their powers under section *6(2) and (3) of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973,* hereby give you notice requiring you to restrict charges for the performance of services in the course of business. The said restriction requires you to reduce charges for the hire of contractors plant and equipment by an average of 2 per cent until you have eliminated the excess over your reference level which arose in the period beginning 1 April 1974 and ending 31 March 1975, the said excess being an *amount of* £150,449.

Dated 4 December 1975.
WILLIAM HUGHES on behalf of the Price Commission

In the Matter of the Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and In the Matter of NEW TOWNS CEILINGS *Limited (In Liquidation)*

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants of 19, Eastcheap, London EC3M 1DA, on Tuesday, the 13th day of January 1976, at 11.20 a.m. to be followed at 11.22 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

In the Matter of the Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and In the Matter of CANNONS HOTEL Limited (In Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., *Chartered Accountants of* 19, Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1976, at 11.15 a.m. to be followed at 11.17 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-Up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

No. 004071 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of RADBROOK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was, on the 9th day of December 1975 presented to the said Court by *Pencrete* Limited whose registered office is situate at 20 Manvers Street, Bath. And that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 19th day of January 1976; and any creditor or contributory of the said *Company desirous to support or* oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

A. F. & R. W. TWEEDIE of 5 & 7 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3BT London Agents for MESSRS. TITLEY LONG & CO. of 4-5 North Parade, Bath BA1 1LQ. Solicitors for the Petitioner.

NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on, or send by post to, the above-named notice in writing of his intention so to do. *The notice must* state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitor (if any), and must be served or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th day of January 1976.

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE IN BANKRUPTCY. No. 1029 of 1975. In the Matter of a Bankruptcy Petition filed the 15th day of May 1975 to KEMALA JETHANAND MIRPURI of 79 Canfield Gardens, London, N.W.6, Trader in ELECTRICAL GOODS.

Take notice that a Bankruptcy *Petition has been presented against* you in this Court by Pakistan Overseas Standard Bank (a corporate body) of 55/56 Aldgate High Street, London E.C.3, and the Court has ordered that the publication of this notice in the London Gazette and in The Times newspapers shall be deemed to be service of the Petition upon you; and further take notice that the said Petition will be heard at this Court at Thomas More Building (1st Floor) Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL, on the 15th day of January, 1976, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Receiving Order against you in your absence.

The Petition can be inspected by you on application at this Court.

Dated this 26th day of November, 1975.

G. M. PARBURY, Registrar.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and In the Matter of THE HISTORIC AIRCRAFT MUSEUM (SOUTHEND) *Limited (In Liquidation)*

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 19 Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1976, at 11.05 a.m. to be followed at 11.07 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the *Liquidator's Acts and Dealings* and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of INFOTAPE (INTERNATIONAL) Limited Nature of Business: Provision of secretarial and business services
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 10th November, 1975
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 30th December, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP at 10.00 o'clock
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of COOLHILL CONSTRUCTION Limited Nature of Business. Builders and plant hirers
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 3rd November, 1975
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 30th December, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP at 11.00 o'clock
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

In the Matter of ROWAN DISTRIBUTORS Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

By order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, dated the 8th day of October, 1975, Mr. JAMES RICHARD ARTHUR REID of Lloyds Bank Buildings, Fratton Bridge, Portsmouth has been APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR of the above named company without a COMMITTEE of INSPECTION.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975

J. R. A. REID, Liquidator

R. R. BOAST Ltd. The Companies Act, 1948.

I, MARTIN JOHN SPENCER Chartered Accountant of Messrs. Stoy, Hayward & Co., 54 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DJ give notice that I was appointed LIQUIDATOR in the above matter on the 31st October, 1975. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

M. J. SPENCER, F.C.A., Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of CHRIFFELL SECURITIES Limited Nature of Business: Holding company for a group of companies
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 6th October 1975
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 30th December 1975, at Room 239 Templar House 81 High Holborn London WC1V 6NP at 10.00 o'clock
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of BROTMEAD Limited *Nature of Business: Building contractors*
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 20th October 1975
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 30th December 1975, at Room G20 Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 12.00 o'clock
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 12.30 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE IN BANKRUPTCY. No. 919 of [illegible]. In the Matter of a bankruptcy Petition filed the 2nd day of May [illegible] To GULU DAYARAM MIRPURI of 79 Canfield Gardens, London [illegible] trader in ELECTRICAL GOODS.

Take notice, that a Bankruptcy Petition has been presented against you in this Court by Pakistan Overseas Standard Bank (a corporate body) of 55/56 Aldgate High Street, London EC3 and the Court has *ordered that the publication* of this notice in the London Gazette and in The Times newspaper shall be deemed to be service of the Petition upon you; and further take notice that the said Petition will be heard at this Court at Thomas More Building (1st Floor) Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 15th day of January 1976 at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Receiving Order *against you in your absence.*

The Petition can be inspected by you on application at this Court.

Dated this 26th day of November, 1975.

G. M. PARBURY, Registrar.

In the Matter of THE CAMP VALLEY GOLD MINES Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on *or before the 16th day of January* 1976, to send their names and addresses, with particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, HERBERT JOHN GREEN and CLIFFORD [illegible] WENNER, both of 30 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6BO, the LIQUIDATORS of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidators are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 15th day of December 1975.

H. J. GREEN,
C. E. WENNER,
Joint Liquidators

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and In the Matter of STATION ROAD GARAGE (CAMBRIDGE) Limited (In Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 19 Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on *Tuesday,* the 13th day of January 1976, at 11.45 a.m. to be followed at 11.47 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. H. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of SIR STANLEY RA[illegible] ASSOCIATES Limited No. 00[illegible] 1965

Notice is hereby given that a FIRST and FINAL DIVIDEND to CREDITORS is intended to be DECLARED in the above-named *Company* and that Creditors who have not already proved their debts are to come in and prove such claims on or before the 31st December 1975 after which date the Official Receiver and Liquidator of the above-named Company will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Company having regard only to such Creditors as shall then have proved their claims.

J. B. CLEMETSON Senior Official Receiver and Liquidator, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct London EC1N [illegible]

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the *Matter of DOWNWAYS PRO[illegible]* TRADING CO. Limited Nature of Business: Property dealers
WINDING-UP ORDER [illegible] 10th November, 1975
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 29th December 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 2.00 o'clock
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place [illegible] o'clock
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and In the Matter of WALTHAM [illegible] HOTEL Limited (in Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants of [illegible] Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on Tuesday, the 13th day of January 1976, at 11.10 a.m. to be followed at 11.12 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of *the conduct* of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

DRAWING OF BONDS

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT 3 PER CENT. EXTERNAL [illegible] 1902

THIRD SERIES BONDS

Notice is hereby given that [illegible] Bonds of £19 18s 0d each [illegible] Bonds of £99 10s 0d each [illegible] ing to £67,063 0s 0d [illegible] equivalent £67,063.00 [illegible] with an equal number of [illegible] Interest Bearing Bonds of £[illegible] and £33 3s 4d respectively [illegible] identical numbers, amounting to £22,354 6s 8d (Decimal equivalent £22,354.33) were DRAWN [illegible] Lisbon on the 15th November [illegible] for payment from 1st January [illegible] to 31st December 1980.

Drawn Bonds which have [illegible] stamped by the Portuguese [illegible] *Delegate may be presented* [illegible] ment at the Securities Office [illegible] of BARING BROTHERS [illegible] Limited, 88 Leadenhall Street, London, EC3A 3DT, where a list of the numbers of the above Bonds may be obtained [illegible] listing forms may [illegible]

Appointments Vacant

Litigation Solicitor

Solicitor required with two years' Litigation experience for expanding firm. The firm has an office in Europe and should the applicant be able to speak French or German this would be an advantage but is not essential. Salary is subject to age and experience but it is unlikely the suitable applicant will be disappointed with the salary offered.

Please reply in confidence to

Box 1536 S, The Times

GENERAL VACANCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

With a financial background

c. £2,500 p.a.

The Conference Department of the Institution of Electrical Engineers organises a programme of up to 15 major conferences each year.

There is currently a vacancy for an Administrative Assistant to assume responsibility for the co-ordination of all financial aspects of the *Department's work, including budgeting, monitoring of expenditure* and financial forecasting for the entire annual work programme.

The person appointed will supervise a small clerical section responsible for registration of all delegates, and will also be responsible for the co-ordination of the promotional campaign for each conference, purchase orders and stock control.

Salary which will reflect ability, experience and qualifications will be *in the region of £2,500 p.a.,* in addition to which there are attractive benefits which include 4 weeks annual leave, good contributory pension scheme and excellent staff restaurant.

Please write to, or telephone:
MRS. CAROL BUCKLAND, PERSONNEL OFFICER, IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL,
Tel.: 01-836 9589

GREATER LONDON CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU SERVICE

TRAINING OFFICER

needed to continue the development of an active training programme for the 1,000 staff of the London Citizen Advice Bureaux. Energy, initiative, knowledge of educational systems and techniques, social services and the advice and information field desirable.

For further details contact:
THENE COWEN,
GLCABS
81 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7QH
Telephone: 01-379 6841

Closing date: 28th December

ENGLISH/FRENCH TRANSLATOR for a MAJOR OIL COMPANY IN BRUSSELS

Petrofina, one of the world's leading oil companies, has a vacancy at its Head Office in Brussels for a highly competent Translator who has a full command of the French language.

A minimum of 2-3 years' experience is essential and it is envisaged that the successful applicant will be in the age range 25-35. An excellent salary is offered together with attractive fringe benefits.

Interviews will be held in London, and interested applicants should 'phone or write in the first instance to:

Mr. W. J. Carter,
PETROFINA (U.K.) LTD.,
Petrofina House,
York Road, London, S.E.1
Tel.: 01-928 8000

YOUTH (16/18)

offered indoor/outdoor vacancy (based City of London) in one of the country's leading commercial estate agencies to train under a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

G.C.E.s immaterial but legible *handwriting and rapid* mental arithmetic essential. Common sense and hard work will bring job satisfaction but only modest salary for time being.

Articulate and cheerful applicants ring Miss Gwynn (01-638 8001) for interview with Partner.

DALE FORT Field Centre, Dale, Haverfordwest, has a vacancy for Cook/Chef/Caterer. Permanent position. Good hours. Starting January/February. Apply, The Warden.

N. ITALY. E.F.L. teachers required from January. Please apply express with curriculum vitae.—Box 1339 S, The Times.

INTERIOR DECORATOR, 30-50 years old, required with keen interest in antiques. Apply John Keil Limited, 154 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3. Telephone: 589 4454.

GREENWICH THEATRE requires an Administrator. He or she will be responsible for the administration and accounting of *the Theatre at* Crooms Hill with overall supervision of the administration at our Young People's Theatre and Tramshed Theatre. Salary and terms of employment negotiable. Apply in writing to Ewan Hooper, Director, Greenwich Theatre, 13 Nevada St., Greenwich, S.E.10.

LODGINGS INSPECTOR

This responsible job will be filled by a sensible person who likes dealing with all sorts of people and has at least two years' experience of driving a car in London.

If you fit the description you could join our small team of Lodgings Inspectors and help find accommodation for overseas students in London. The salary starts at £2,340 with real career prospects. The post is based at Portland Place, W.1.

For further details and application form please telephone or write quoting H 23 to Staff Recruitment Department,

THE BRITISH COUNCIL
65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA
Telephone: 499 8011, ext. 123.

IS YOUR FLAIR BEING USED?

We can offer you an original and demanding job, working in a small, creative team. We design and run English Language Courses for company personnel. We run general and specialised courses in London and on the Continent, for many of Europe's leading companies. We're looking for two young people, with energy and wit and with experience, possibly in business, in an industry or in education. If you can show us you have the qualities we need, you'll receive a thorough training before joining one of our teams. Your starting salary will be in the region of £3,300. Please ring DENISE BLACKIE at 01-937 3233. THE CANNING SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

CHEF

required for Dining Rooms in Westminster offices of large International Company. Candidates, who will be well qualified and with wide ranging experience, will provide a high level of catering for approximately 40 people a day. Hours 9-5 Monday-Friday. Good salary and excellent working conditions in a modern, fully-equipped kitchen. Replies to Box 1673 S, The Times.

WELL EDUCATED young men (16-20) will find a choice of good careers through COVENT GARDEN APPOINTMENTS, 53 Fleet Street, E.C.4. 01-353 7696.

THE SUE RYDER FOUNDATION for the sick and disabled of all ages is looking for a married couple, or perhaps two sisters or friends, to act as House-parents for its home set in beautiful Hertfordshire countryside: one to look after the domestic side of the house, the *other to be responsible for ad*ministration: warmth, energy and understanding required.—Apply in writing to Appointments Secretary, Sue Ryder Foundation, Cavendish, Suffolk.

FURNISHED NEGOTIATOR wanted, for own department, W2. Estate Agency 403 6191.

GENERAL VACANCIES

NEW YEAR! NEW CAREER?

MAKE 1976 your year of success! Our Career Guidance service *helps you to take* stock and identify how you can best develop your future. Free brochure:

Career Analysts
90 Gloucester Pl., W.1
01-935 5452, 24 hrs.

EXPEDITION LEADERS.—Men (25 to 30) wanted for Asia and Africa.—Ring Exodus, 01-937 6965.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

ALANGATE Legal Staff. The specialist consultants to the profession offer a confidential service to *employers and staff* at all levels. Telephone for appointment or write to Mrs Robnick, Mrs Harkness or Mr Gates, 01-405 7201, at 6 Great Queen St., London WC2 *(off Kingsway)*.

ALANGATE Business Transfer Dept. a country-wide service specializing in negotiation, sales and purchase of legal practices and mergers. Address all inquiries to Mr. W. Keay, Alangate Agency, 6 Great Queen St., London WC2 or Tel. 01-405 7201, ext. 49.

ASSIST. SOLICITOR L/B Hammersmith.—See £4,000 + Column.

NORTH-WEST SURREY. Assistant solicitor required to help litigation partner in busy practice. Good prospects for successful applicant. Apply Box 2051 S, The Times.

LITIGATION SOLICITOR with 2 years' *experience for expanding* firm.—See General Vacs.

ACCOUNTANCY

OPENINGS at all levels in the Profession.—Gabriel Duffy Consultancy, *Kensington. 01-937 9521.*

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

EDUCATION SECRETARY

National Charity requires an Education Secretary to conduct *a Public Education Programme* involving public speaking, production of literature, public relations and administration. Salary circa £3,750, 5 weeks paid holiday annual.

Apply for job description and application form to: The Director, British Epilepsy Association, 3-6 Alfred Place WC1E 7ED.

TEACH ENGLISH in Germany. January vacancies exist in Inlingua Schools in Germany for teachers of English as a foreign language to adults. Graduates or qualified teachers, *knowledge of* German to degree level required. 12 months contract from 4 Jan., '76. Good salary. Telephone 01-834 4366 between 10-4 (no personal callers, please).

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

New Zealand

University of Canterbury

CHRISTCHURCH

LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN CONTINUING EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the above-mentioned position in *the Department* of Extension Studies. Applicants should possess a higher degree in Adult Education and have had previous teaching experience in *that discipline.*

The salary for Lecturers is on a scale from NZ$8,121 to $10,172 per annum and for Senior Lecturers NZ$10,341 to $12,037 (bar) $12,409 to $13,105 per annum.

Particulars, including information on travel and removal allowances, study leave, housing and superannuation may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 36 Gordon Square, *London WC1H 0PF.*

Applications close on 27 February, 1976.

University of London

CHAIR OF TECHNOLOGY OF ART AND CONSERVATION AT COURTAULD INSTITUTE OF ART

The Senate invites applications for the above Chair tenable from 1 October, 1976. Applications (10 copies) should be received not later than 9 February, 1976, by the Academic Registrar, (T), University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Hull

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Applications are invited from *suitably* qualified candidates for the post of Lecturer in Physical Education. The post is immediately available.

Salary will be on the scale £2,862-£6,134 per *annum* (under review) plus F.S.S.U. or U.S.S. benefits.

Applications (six copies) giving details of age, qualifications and experience together with the names of three referees should be sent by 27th January, 1976 to the Registrar, *University of Hull,* Hull, HU6 7RX from whom further particulars can be obtained.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

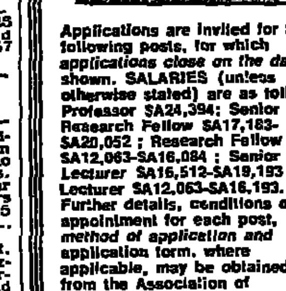
ASSISTANT UNDER-LIBRARIAN

required for mainly administrative duties in connection with the Library's administrative, supporting and reader services.

Salary on scale £3,594 to £5,022 a year.

Enquiries and *applications* (by 5 January, 1976) to Librarian, Cambridge University *Library,* West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DR.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS



Applications are invited for the following posts, for which *applications close on the dates* shown. SALARIES (unless otherwise stated) are as follows: Professor $A24,394; Senior Research Fellow $A17,183-$A20,052; Research Fellow $A12,063-$A16,084; Senior Lecturer $A16,512-$A19,193; Lecturer $A12,063-$A16,193. Further details, conditions of appointment for each post, *method of application and* application form, where applicable, may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities. (Appts), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

University of Melbourne
CHAIR OF RUSSIAN
The University of Melbourne has created a Chair of Russian. Applications are invited from *scholars in any area of Russian* Studies, particularly from specialists in Russian Language and Literature.
27 February 1976.

Flinders University of South Australia
LECTURER IN POLITICS (Political Sociology)
School of Social Sciences
Preference will be given to candidates with theoretical and empirical interests in the structure of power in advanced industrial societies.
16 January 1976.

James Cook University of North Queensland
LECTURERS/ SENIOR LECTURERS IN BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES
(2 Posts)
Applicants should have completed a doctoral degree in sociology or a doctoral degree in psychology with an emphasis in clinical or counselling psychology. An applicant should *preferably also have previous* course work, research or teaching experience in related fields such as anthropology, linguistics, social work or sociology or psychology. Appointees will participate in the newly established department contributing to multidisciplinary and specialized courses at the undergraduate level.
13 February 1976.

Australian National University
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW/RESEARCH FELLOW
Research School of Social Sciences
Department of Law
The Department is concerned with research in depth into legal problems, with an emphasis on the relation of legal studies to other social *studies and in active* collaboration with the other departments of the Research Schools of Social Sciences and *Pacific Studies*. At present the emphasis of the department is on Common Law, Criminal Law and Primitive and Comparative Law, but special *consideration will be given to* applicants particularly qualified in labour law or family law, or in jurisprudence.
13 February 1976.

La Trobe University
Melbourne
SENIOR LECTURER IN THE HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY OR PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGION
The appointment will be to the Department of History or *Division of Prehistory*, but the successful applicant will be required to work in the Religious Studies area of study, an area to which scholars from different disciplines contribute courses and in which students can major.
Applicants should have expert knowledge of one or more of the major world religions. They should have considerable teaching and research experience in religious studies, as they will be required both to provide a second year core course in the area and to organise and help to teach honours courses and postgraduate work in the area.
26 January 1976.

University of Newcastle
New South Wales
SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER
Department of Psychology
Applicants should hold a doctoral degree preferably in an aspect of educational, social or developmental psychology. Tertiary teaching in the field of psychology or professional *experience or both are* required. Evidence of scholarship in the form of published papers is also necessary.
The appointee, if at Senior Lecturer level, will be required to organise and supervise postgraduate *training of educational* psychologists. In addition, undergraduate teaching and supervision will be required.
9 January 1976.

LECTURER
Department of Economics
While no particular area of interest is specified, it is hoped that the Lecturer will be able to contribute to small group teaching in Economic Statistics 1. An interest in other areas such as microeconomics, econometrics, or subjects related to microeconomics could be an added advantage.
9 January 1976.

LECTURERS (2)
Department of Education Studies in Australian Education:
The successful applicant would be required to give courses, particularly at undergraduate level, and to conduct and supervise research, in the field of Australian Education. Applicants would be *expected to possess a higher* degree in Education in one or more of the fields of Philosophy of Education, History of Ideas, Sociology, Curriculum, or *Educational Administration,* and to have published research in such areas.
Educational Psychology:
The successful applicant would be expected to teach both general and specialized courses in Educational Psychology, and also to participate in individual and team research into areas involving the application of psychology in classroom learning or curriculum development, or into the effects *of schooling upon cognitive and* affective learning. Applicants must possess a research degree in psychology or educational psychology and an established *research record in the area.*
9 January 1976.

University of Bristol

LECTURER IN DENTAL SURGERY (CONSERVATION)

READVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited for the above post. [illegible] salary according to qualifications and experience will be in the [illegible] £3,[illegible]-£5,[illegible] or [illegible] per annum [illegible] superannuation.

The successful candidate could expect to be granted [illegible] status by the Area [illegible] Health Authority as Registrar or Senior Registrar during his tenure of the post.

Applications (two copies) giving full names, age, education, qualifications and experience and accompanied by the names of two referees, should be sent to the Secretary, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained, not later than 16th January, 1976. (Please quote reference HGT).

The University of Leeds
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

ELECTRONICS DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Applications are invited for a post to assist research groups within the Department in the design and development of electronic equipment. Applicants should have a degree or its equivalent and a working knowledge of modern electronics including computers, digital techniques and radio-frequency circuitry.

The appointment will be at the Experimental Officer Grade with starting salary in the range £2,370 to £3,394 (under review).

Applications (three copies) stating age, experience and qualifications and naming three referees should be sent as soon as possible to the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT.

Queen Mary College
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Applications are invited from postdoctoral or equivalently experienced Computer Scientists to work on theoretical and practical computational problems of induction, deduction and automatic pattern generation for non-trivial cognitive tasks such as chess endgames. This two-year S.R.C. supported appointment is to start as soon as possible. Initial salary in range £3,361 to £3,[illegible] p.a. *(under review),* including London allowance and Threshold.

Please apply, detailing qualifications, research experience and names and addresses of two referees, to The Registrar, (T) Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS, as soon as possible.

Clare College, Cambridge

COLLEGE LECTURESHIP IN LAW AND OFFICIAL FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited from men and women for the above office tenable from 1 October 1976 for a maximum period of *five years.*

The successful applicant will be expected to teach some of the principal legal subjects of the Cambridge Law Tripos and to undertake research in comparative law or legal history.

The emoluments of the office will be on the scale applicable to a University Assistant Lecturer (at present £3,065 to £3,881 per annum).

Further particulars are obtainable from the Master, Clare College, Cambridge, CB2 1TL, to whom a curriculum vitae and outline of proposed research, together with the names of two referees, should be sent so as to reach him not later than 20 January 1976.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Queen's University of Belfast

S.R.C. RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS

The Science Research Council is likely to offer to suitable candidates a limited number of research studentships for 1976 tenable in the Faculties of Science or Applied Science and Technology. The former includes the Departments of Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Statistics and Operational Research, Computer Science, Pure and Applied Physics, Analytical, Inorganic, Organic, Physical and Industrial Chemistry, Biochemistry, Zoology, Botany, Psychology, Archaeology and History and Philosophy of Science; the latter, Engineering Mathematics, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Electronic and Aeronautical Engineering Departments.

The value of these will be in accordance with S.R.C. scales and students graduating in 1976 in Great Britain (and who are not resident in Northern Ireland) are invited to write stating their particular field of interest, to the Dean of the selected Faculty by 14th January, 1976.

The Queen's University of *Belfast*

LECTURESHIP IN PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for a lectureship in the Department of Psychology. Candidates' research interests may be in any area of psychology. Preference may be given to candi*dates with experience relevant* to teaching either in an academic area associated with clinical, social, developmental or experimental psychology. The department has three real time computers plus an excellent range of equipment for experimental and observational studies, and enjoys good relations with local schools and hospitals.

The salary scale is £2,778 to £6,051 with contributory pension rights under the FSSU/USS. Initial placing on the scale will depend on qualifications and experience. Assistance with *removal expenses* is available.

Applications should be received by the 31st January, 1976. *Further particulars may* be obtained from the Personnel Officer, The Queen's University of Belfast, BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland. (Please quote Ref. 75/T).

Cranfield Institute of Technology

AERODYNAMICS DIVISION

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

is needed to undertake supersonic wind tunnel studies of base drag reduction. The work is sponsored by the Ministry of Defence and is relevant to many current and future projects.

Applicants should be of degree standard in aeronautical, civil or mechanical engineering or physics and would be expected to register for a higher degree. The appointment carries a salary in the range £1,500 to £2,500.

Applications, including details of qualifications, experience and the names of two referees, should be sent immediately to Professor J. L. Stollery, Aerodynamics Division, College of Aeronautics, Cranfield Institute of Technology, Cranfield, Bedford.

University of the South Pacific—Fiji

Applications are invited for the post of

SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER

IN ACCOUNTING IN THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Applicants should have a higher degree and experience in university teaching and research. Some professional experience would be an advantage. The *newly established degree* programme in Accounting provides the opportunity for teaching in all aspects of Accounting and Finance but preference will be given to an applicant with interests in Management accounting and systems analysis including computer applications. Salary Scale: Senior Lecturer $F8,610-$F10,080 p.a.; Lecturer $F6,330-$F8,328 p.a. (£1 sterling=$F1.91). Salaries are currently under review. The British Government may supplement salaries in range £[illegible]-£[illegible] p.a. (sterling) for married appointees (normally free of all tax) and provide children's *education allowances* and holiday visit passages. Superannuation scheme. [illegible] gratuity for contract appointment, partly furnished accommodation at rental of [illegible] of salary. Detailed applications (six copies), including a detailed curriculum vitae, a recent small photograph and naming 3 referees, should be sent by [illegible] January 1976, to the Registrar (Post 75/[illegible]), University of the South Pacific, *GPO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.* Further particulars are available from this address.

The Queen's University of Belfast

CHAIR OF SOCIOLOGY

The Senate of the Queen's University of Belfast invites applications for appointment to the Chair of Sociology from 1st May, 1976, or such other date as may be arranged. Candidates should be qualified in sociology, or related disciplines. The salary is £8,505 per annum with contributory pension rights under FSSU USS. Assistance is available with removal expenses.

Applications should be received by 30th January, 1976. Further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, The Queen's University of Belfast, BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland. *(Please quote Ref. 75*[illegible]

LORD WANDSWORTH FOUNDATION

Applications are invited for Foundation Awards for entry to Lord Wandsworth College in September 1976. The scheme governing the Foundation qualifies eligibility as follows:

". . . boys in need of assistance who were born in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands, or would have been so born if their parents had not been employed for the time being abroad and who have either lost one or both parents or whose parents are divorced or separated . . ."

Candidates for the awards must have the potential to benefit from a boarding school education leading perhaps to University entrance. Candidates must be at least 10 years 6 months on 1st September 1976.

Application forms should be obtained from:
The Headmaster
LORD WANDSWORTH COLLEGE,
Long Sutton, Hampshire RG25 1TB
to who they should be returned completed not later than 31st January 1976.

Lord Wandsworth College is an independent boarding School, being in membership of the Headmasters' Conference and the Governing Bodies' Association of Public Schools.

WEST EUROPE

French President sees sign of hope as nations gather for energy talks

n Charles Hargrove
s, Dec 15
esident Giscard d'Estaing have every reason to be fied tomorrow morning n he opens the ministerial erence on international omic cooperation, known for short as the "north- conference". It will be a year since he launched idea, rather rashly it ed at the time, of bring- ogether representatives of ndustrial countries and of eveloping ones. The aim to substitute negotiation if possible, cooperation for policies of confrontation followed the oil crisis.

the time of the first pre- ory meeting in Paris last advocates of policies of ntation seemed to be ed in their view that it impossible to work out a on denominator of in- ts between oil consumers, roducers, and developing ries. Even as late as a h ago, the difficulties of roup of 77 in appointing 19 representatives to the rence, and even more so, n's insistence on separate sentation, made postpone- at best appear inevitable. the French President's the most hopeful sign of nge of heart on the part I taking part, is that the rence is taking place at It is not expected here to ce a new, fresh-baked l economic order in two half days, but to be the dural starting point of a nuing debate. The main t is to avoid the repetition e kind of situation that when the fourfold in- e in oil prices took the trialized countries by sur- just two years ago.

esident Giscard d'Estaing es that the problem of y cannot be considered in ion, but is inseparable consideration of non-oil odities and the increasing verishment of the develop- countries. The setting up new world economic order him the only way of avoid- be sharp ups and downs of orld economy in the past years which make the rich countries poor, and the poor countries poorer.

In a speech two months ago, he argued that such an economic order must have four aims: balance of trade; balance of industrial activity; balance of currencies; and balance of incomes. On the last point, he said there must be a balance of aid and a distribution of this aid burden between industrialized countries and producers.

Above all, the new order could be set up only on the basis of agreement. "It will not be set up by imposing it on countries through some artifice or creating it above their heads, in deference to some Utopian vision of world government", he said. It must take the form of a lasting system of alliance between different economic systems.

Tomorrow's conference will be co-chaired by Mr Allan MacEachen, of Canada, and Señor Manuel Pérez-Guerrero, of Venezuela, who will speak after President Giscard d'Estaing. Each of the 27 foreign ministers present will then have 10 minutes tomorrow afternoon to present his general remark on the aims of the conference. Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, will concentrate on Britain's North Sea oil in his speech. This is Britain's "card of entry" to the international discussion of energy, as officials describe it. He will emphasize Britain's great potential as an oil producer. His aim will be to show that, in spite of the weak state of the economy, Britain is to be taken very seriously. He will also want to set the British position slightly apart from that of the rest of the Community.

The British hope is that progress will be made on the expert commissions and that, so far as oil is concerned, the conference may eventually approve some system of consultation between producers and consumers before prices are raised. This could help to avoid sudden changes in price which have been so damaging to industrial countries.

After the judgment: Herr Guillaume and his wife smiling confidently in front of the Düsseldorf courtroom yesterday.

'Spy in Chancellery' jailed for 13 years

From Dan van der Vat
Düsseldorf, Dec 15

Gunter Guillaume, the "spy in the Chancellery" over whom Herr Willy Brandt resigned last year, was today found guilty of treason and sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment.

His wife, Christel, was sent to prison for eight years for helping him to gather secret information and send it to the East German Ministry for State Security.

The two, both aged 48, were convicted on all charges. Herr Guillaume was accused of treason and betraying official secrets, his wife with treason and aiding and abetting the betrayal of secrets.

All those in the packed little courtroom, specially built in a sound-proof cellar clear of "bugs" under the State High Court in Düsseldorf, rose to their feet as Judge Herrmann-Josef Müller, the court's president, pronounced them guilty and immediately sentenced them in a scarcely audible voice.

Neither accused showed any trace of emotion. Before the five judges appeared, they chatted in a remarkably relaxed manner.

At one point during Judge Müller's summing up, which according to German tradition follows the pronouncement of sentence, they were reduced to almost helpless, silent laughter when he described how Frau Guillaume had gathered titbits of information while working at the Bonn office of the *Land* of Hesse—hardly worthy of a Mata Hari, it seemed.

For the rest, apart from the occasional exchange of glances or a smile, the couple sat impassively staring into the middle distance, as if what was going on did not concern them at all. Throughout the six months of the trial it has been the same, even when Herr Brandt, the former Chancellor, appeared to give evidence.

Judge Müller said the couple had been trained in espionage by the East Germans and ordered to penetrate the Social Democratic Party (SPD) after their faked "escape" to West Germany in 1956.

They settled in Frankfurt, joined the SPD there in 1957 and posed as committed voluntary workers for the party. They had established radio contact with East Berlin within a month of their "escape," and set up a courier network, dead-letter boxes and cover addresses.

Herr Guillaume soon became a "resident"—the head of a group of spies with responsibility for sending their information to East Germany.

Both became paid employees of the SPD in Frankfurt and acquired reputations for organizing ability. In 1969 Herr Guillaume actively supported by Herr Georg Leber, now Minister of Defence, who has his constituency in the area, began to look for a job as a civil servant in Bonn.

At the beginning of 1970 he was made on him, but he was and social affairs staff of the Chancellery. A security check wass made on him, but he was confirmed in office. In the autumn of 1972, he was appointed Herr Brandt's personal assistant for liaison with the SPD, which gave him access to many secret documents.

But, the judge emphasized, the most severe damage he did took place in the summer of 1973, when he accompanied Herr Brandt on holiday to Norway. While there, he had access to all incoming and outgoing messages between the Chancellor and Bonn, including a wealth of material about Nato.

At that time, serious disputes had broken out between the United States and its European alliance partners, and Nato was in a particularly weak condition. For such information to reach Moscow, as it must if sent to East Berlin, was a threat to the external security of West Germany. Among others, Herr Guillaume saw correspondence on the state of the alliance between President Nixon and Herr Brandt.

The great irony of West Germany's most embarrassing spy scandal is that Herr Guillaume was under suspicion of espionage when he did all this, but security advisers had asked Herr Brandt to keep him on so they could get proof.

The only question remaining is how long the couple will serve before East Germany tries to force an exchange. There are 465 West Germans in East German prisons.

OVERSEAS

'Politician best as head of CIA'

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 15

Mr George Bush was back on Capitol Hill today, having relinquished his job as head of the American Liaison Office in Peking to testify about his fitness to head the Central Intelligence Agency. President Ford nominated him to succeed Mr William Colby when he reshuffled his Cabinet a month ago.

Mr Bush, a former Texas congressman and chairman of the Republican national committee, met criticism that a politician should not have the CIA job with the assertion that it might not have got itself into the present mess had a politician been in charge.

"I am not talking about narrow political partisanship, I am talking about the respect for the people and their sensitivities that most politicians understand", he said. "But I also recognize the need to leave politics the minute I take on the new job."

Critics of Mr Bush have noted his keen political ambition and have suggested that it is pointless putting him in CIA if he drops out in six months and runs for Vice-President. Today he declined to say that he would refuse the running mate's position were it offered. He said it was unfair to ask him to do so.

Mr Bush promised to do all within his power to enforce the highest ethical standards at CIA, and to keep himself informed personally.

He also promised to ensure that the CIA stayed "in foreign—I repeat—foreign intelligence business". This was a reference to the disclosures this year of CIA's violation of its statute in activities inside the United States.

Mr Bush did not, however, adopt the prescription of the liberals that the CIA should confine itself in future merely to the gathering of intelligence and drop its covert actions.

Chief Rabbi begins Russia visit

Dr Immanuel Jakobovits, the leader of Britain's Jewish community, flew to Russia from London yesterday for a nine-day visit. It is the first official visit by a Chief Rabbi of the western world to the Soviet Union.

Dr Jakobovits said: "I will be meeting members of the Jewish communities in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. I will pass on greetings from the British community to the Soviet Jews and our good wishes

He hoped to meet the Soviet Interior Minister and also to have talks with non-official Jewish groups.

Our Moscow Correspondent writes: The visit reflects a flickering Soviet desire to appear slightly less partial to the Arab side in the Middle East conflict.

The invitation seems also designed to lessen the resentment of world Jewry over Soviet backing for the United Nations anti-Zionist resolution. It also seems meant to reassure Soviet Jews who are integrated in Soviet society and who until now have not entertained plans to emigrate but who none the less have felt increasingly insecure.

The Soviet leaders realize that wholesale departure of these elements, including eminent scientists, intellectuals and other talented people, would mean a serious cultural loss.

Defence Bill blocked over Angola cash

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 15

Congressional opponents of covert American intervention in the Angola war today managed to block the passage of this year's main defence appropriation Bill until the Administration has explained itself. A rare closed session has been set for Wednesday.

The first formal public confirmation of American expenditure of $50m (£25m) on covert Angola actions came at the weekend not from Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, but from Mr Daniel Moynihan, America's permanent representative at the United Nations.

A small group of Senate liberal Democrats, including Senator Mike Mansfield, the majority leader, who said he feared "another Vietnam", prevented routine passage of this $120.900m defence Bill until it could be established whether any of the money was earmarked for Angola.

Senator John McClellan, the appropriations committee chairman and floor manager for this Bill, insisted that there were no funds for Angola.

Suharto operation

Jakarta, Dec 15.—President Suharto of Indonesia has had a minor stomach operation in the army hospital here.

...iss to vote tobacco ...blicity ban

... Our Correspondent
...va, Dec 15

... proposed constitutional ...dment forbidding all pub- ... for tobacco and alcoholic ...s is to be the subject of a ...n-wide referendum in ...erland. The sole exception ...d be for foreign publi- ...ns with a limited circula- ...in Switzerland.

...is results from the collec- ... of 90,000 signatures by the ...g Templars' Association— ...0 more than the required ...mum for a popular consti- ...al initiative.

... accepted, the amendment ...d affect press and cinema ...rtising revenue. Advertise- ...s for cigarettes and drink ... not allowed on television

Pollution check round coasts of Mediterranean

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Dec 15

A two-year programme for measuring pollution in coastal waters round the Mediterranean is being set up at a conference here this week of scientists from 17 countries under the auspices of the United Nations Environment programme and the World Health Organization.

This will include inspection of beaches and examination of shellfish, not only oysters and mussels but shrimps and other small crustacea.

According to a report put before the meeting, "the present situation constitutes a significant health hazard in many places.

...adrid ready for gradual ...ift towards democracy

... Our Correspondent
...id, Dec 15

... new Spanish Government ...pected to announce a pro- ...me of liberal reforms after ...ng its first Cabinet meet- ...oday.

... programme is expected ...t Spain on a path leading ...ually to democracy; but it ...ought unlikely that free ...ions and the acceptance of ...cal parties other than the ...nal Movement will be ...anced at present. However, ... authorities, and in par- ...r the police, will probably ...ked to show greater toler- ... for dissent.

...ior Manuel Fraga Iribarne, ... Interior Minister, is be- ...d to have presented the ...net with a programme for ... acceptance in due course ...ll political parties except ... communists. He said ...rtly that "the reforms ...h the new Government ...s mean neither revolution ... a rupture".

But he did not specify what these reforms would be—only that they would bring Spain nearer to Europe. "The first part of the reforms will be concluded within two years", he said.

The Archbishop of Madrid, Cardinal Vicente Enrique y Tarancon, told the assembly of Spanish bishops today that the Church was ready to accept political changes. "No one can ignore that the difference between civil society and the ecclesiastical community is getting bigger.... Our faith to the Gospel and to the people impels us to assume changes", he declared.

Political prisoners at Segovia and Carabanchel prisons in Madrid have gone on hunger strike, demanding an amnesty. There are an estimated 180 political prisoners still in Carrabanchel. About 50 others have been set free under the King's "general pardon".

...ger Vadim ...rries again

...ris, Dec 15.—Roger Vadim, 47, the French film direc- ... and former husband of ...tte Bardot and Jane Fonda, ... married again near Paris ...turday.

... bride was Mlle Catherine ...eider, aged 31, grand- ...hter of the founder of one ...France's big steelmakers, ... Acieries du Cruesot.

British seaman on murder charge

Gibraltar, Dec 15.—A British naval rating, Ian Stewart Richards, appeared in court today charged with murdering Mr Terence Alman, a Gibraltarian aged 31.

Able Seaman Richards, of HMS Norfolk, was granted legal aid and remanded in custody until next Monday.

How frustrated dreams led to the Beilen hijack

Snub to Moluccan leaders a sign of growing tension with Dutch

From Sue Masterman
Amsterdam, Dec 15

At a hastily arranged press conference in a sports hall in Beilen four hours after the end of the 13-day siege of the hijacked train, Mr Andreas van Agt, Minister of Justice, thanked publicly and personally a long list of individuals who had helped in the anti-terrorist operation.

Four names were missing from that list, those of Dr Jan Manusama, and the other three South Moluccan mediators who went out to the train on Sunday and to whom the six gunmen surrendered.

When Dr Manusama arrived later on Sunday at the crisis control centre in The Hague for the debriefing he had held almost daily with the four Dutch ministers supervising the rescue operation he was not met by either Mr Joop den Uyl, the Prime Minister, or Mr Max van der Stoel, Minister of Foreign Affairs. This series of pointed snubs indicates how tense relations between the Dutch Government and the Moluccan leaders have become. It has also led to a toughening of the Moluccan attitude. Twenty-five hostages are still held by six gunmen in the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam.

Dr Manusama is an embittered man. He has been president of the South Moluccan government in exile since 1966, when Indonesia executed Dr Chris Soumokil, his predecessor, after his arrest during guerrilla warfare in the South Moluccan Islands. These have been part of Indonesia since the six month old independent republic was crushed in 1950.

A qualified engineer and mathematics teacher, Dr Manusama is a deeply religious Presbyterian as are most of the older generation of Moluccans in The Netherlands. Always a man of peace, he has told his followers that they themselves might not live to see the promised land, the return to the republic of which they have dreamed during 25 years of exile, but that their grandchildren or even their great-grandchildren would, by the grace of God, see that dream fulfilled.

The majority of the older generation, soldiers in the former Dutch Indonesian Army and their families, have resigned themselves to this compromise. The younger generation are trapped in a dilemma of frustration and identity.

The Moluccans have always steadfastly refused to integrate. They now live in about 30 housing estates spread round Holland. Each district functions according to the strict rules of structure within whose framework they lived on the Moluccan Islands, and the community as a whole is ruled by the Badan Persatuan, the council of elders whose word is law.

The Dutch have done everything possible to make the Moluccans settle down. Deciding that the only answer to obstinate Moluccan refusal to integrate was to wait for the generation gap to take its toll, they provided the Moluccans with housing, new furniture, and all the comforts of modern society.

Since they refused Dutch nationality, they were given special travel documents to enable them to cross borders at will. Dutch schools were also provided to educate Moluccans born in The Netherlands to take their place in Dutch society.

The Government reasoned that, in the face of all the material advantages of Western prosperity, the dream of a tropical but impoverished paradise would slowly fade.

The result is that the young Moluccans have grown up in isolation, fed from birth on a concentrated diet of absolute loyalty to the community, and yet expected to earn their living in a society entirely strange to them. This generation, the vast majority of whom support the action of the gunmen in Beilen and Amsterdam without reserve, feel obliged to collect a debt of honour.

The Dutch and the Indonesians, they say, promised when the Moluccans left Indonesia "temporarily" in 1950 that they would one day return to a form of independent republic. This promise has not been honoured. Their parents have been publicly insulted and the Moluccan social code demands that this insult must be righted or avenged.

It was one of Queen Juliana's speech writers who unwittingly ignited the fuse which led to the train hijacking and the raid on the consulate. When Surinam attained independence on November 25, Queen Juliana read a speech proclaiming that "all peoples have a right to their own country". The Moluccans have been waiting for their country for 25 years and this phrase was apparently the final straw.

This has been explained at length by Mr Etti Aponno, leader of the organization of young Moluccans to which the gunmen in Amsterdam and Beilen belong.

Dr Manusama has indicated to the Dutch that he wants only a gesture, such as a statement recognizing that the Moluccan cause is just. The Hague does not need to recognize the South Moluccan Republic or to try to obtain real concessions from Indonesia.

If the Dutch Government does nothing, Dr Manusama has given warning that another wave of terrorism will follow. The Moluccans consider themselves to be in a state of war with Indonesia, and any country which conducts itself as an Indonesian ally is in their line of fire.

Eight die as express and holiday train collide

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Dec 15

At least eight people were killed and 24 seriously injured when the Lisbon-Paris express crashed head-on into an emigrants' holiday train in northern Portugal on Sunday night. The accident happened in a blinding snowstorm at Fornos de Algodres station near the city of Viseu.

The emigrant workers' special train, packed with families coming home for Christmas from France and Germany, was stationary on the single track waiting for the express to pass on a loop line. It is not yet known whether the express driver missed a signal or whether there was a defect in the switching of the points.

The drivers of the two trains died, as did the guards and one of the driver's assistants. The two locomotives were wrecked.

The seriously injured were all returning emigrants. Scores who received minor injuries were treated on the spot. Rescue operations were hindered by the snowstorm and because all telephone communications were cut by the accident. Information filtered through from police radio cars and local fire stations which sent in ambulances. The injured were taken to hospital at Viseu and Coimbra.

All but one of the victims are believed to be Portuguese. One French woman was among those reported in Viseu Hospital.

Zermatt turns down diesel buses

Zermatt, Dec 15.—The voters of this Alpine resort at the foot of the Matterhorn, where motoring is banned, have rejected a plan to introduce low-pollution diesel buses by 781 votes to 340.—AP.

There's always someone worse off than you. Us.

Most families have had to make a few economies lately. Tighten their belts and cut out a few luxuries.

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I would like to know more about Wills/Covenants. ☐
I would like to know how I can help Barnardo's. ☐ (tick box)
(Make cheque/PO payable to Dr. Barnardo's).

NAME.....
(Please print clearly)
ADDRESS.....
.....
.....

Post to: Dr. Barnardo's, Dept. VZ 158
Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG.

EC proposal for uniform ...iving licence

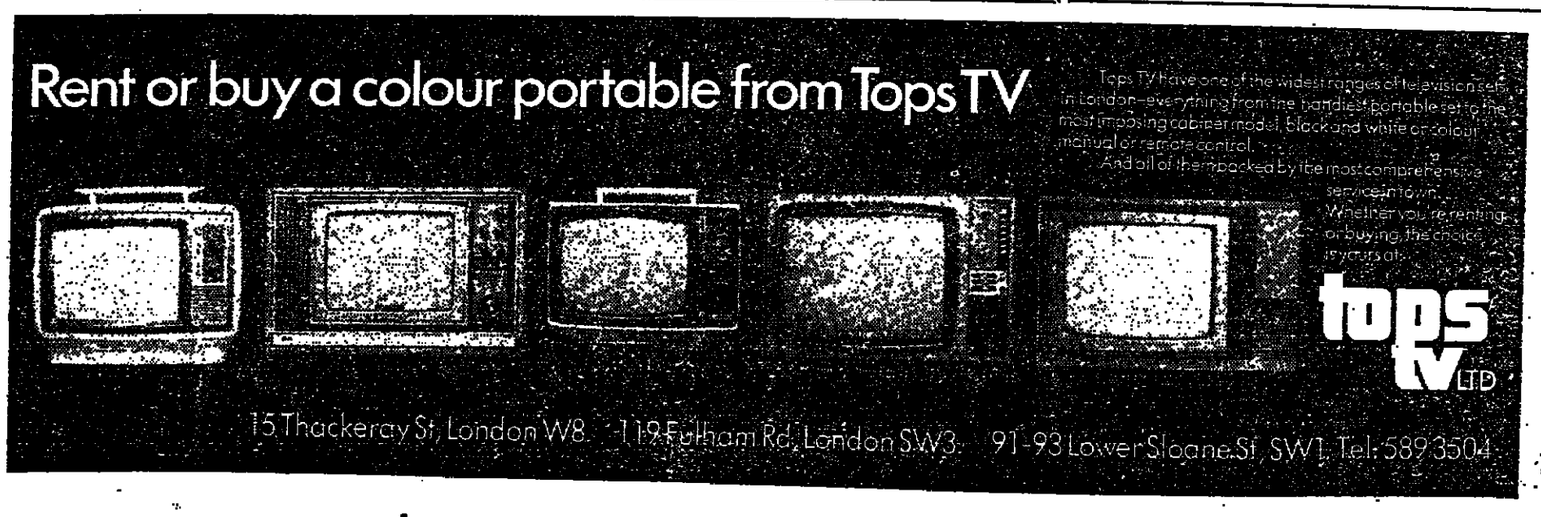
... Our Own Correspondent
...sels, Dec 15

... uniform driving licence, ... throughout the nine coun- ... of the EEC, would be avail- ... to the Community's ...rists in two years from now ... Council of Ministers were ...dopt a new proposal sub- ...ed to it by the European ...mission.

...r an initial period, the ...th of which has still to be ...rmined, the Euro-licence ...ld be automatically issued to ... motorist in the Nine who ...s a national driving permit. ... only special conditions that ...ld have to be met concern ... minimum age for driving a car or a motor cycle—with or without sidecar, over 50 cc and capable of exceeding 30 mph—would be 18. The limit may be changed after the Commission has carried out a comparative survey of accident rates of 17-year-old and 18-year-old drivers.

The age limit for most other categories of vehicle, such as buses and lorries, would be 21, except for tractors. For these the limit would be 16. National driving licences would not be abolished, so different age limits could still stand in individual countries.

If the Nine adopt the Commission's proposal, they would also be obliged within five years to set a date for the introduction of a uniform Euro-driving test,



OVERSEAS

Sharp British attack on Concorde objectors accuses American agency of unprofessional conduct

From Fred Emery
Washington, Dec 15

British Government officials today launched a sharp counter-attack here against the Environmental Protection Agency's recent characterization of the Concorde's noise impact.

An unusually strong letter of complaint from London to Dr Russell Train, the agency's head, was backed by scornful comment on the "unprofessional" conduct of agency officials from Mr A. R. Gordon-Cumming, Counsellor at the British Embassy, at a news conference.

Dr Train is the American official who last week told a congressional subcommittee that he thought it undesirable for Concorde to land at New York and "increasingly questionable" that it land outside Washington.

The letter to Dr Train was from Mr K. G. H. Binning, the British Department of Industry official in charge of the Concorde project. It was released to the press by the British Embassy immediately after delivery, an unusual action.

Mr Binning complained of three failures and one "confusion" in recent agency statements, but it was on the confusion that most scorn was concentrated at the news conference. Dr Train and his men were accused of either incompetence or implicit mischief in mixing up decibel measurements—to Concorde's great detriment. The agency had produced a chart and an explanation purporting to show a "contour" including a vast area around Dulles Airport, Washington, inside which Concorde's noise would be at least 90 Effective Perceived Noise decibels.

In testimony, Dr Train reportedly referred to this as being as loud as downtown traffic. Nonsense, retorted Mr Gordon-Cumming, the agency had confused two types of noise measurement and made Concorde appear more than twice as loud as it actually was

Mr Gordon-Cumming expressed sardonic confidence that the agency ought to be able to afford to employ someone capable of telling the difference between the two measurements. He noted that many inaccurate and misleading things had been said about Concorde but insisted that it was for him the first time that "an agency of the United States Government had chosen to behave in a way like this".

There were other complaints. The agency recently published maps and a statement which, it said, showed that Concorde could be making heavy lorry-like noise from Washington to Baltimore, some 40 miles away.

The British letter to Dr Train and today's explanations pointed out that the chartered area did not make it clear that all possible combinations of Concorde takeoff and landing directions had been lumped together, all at once.

The proposed two daily takeoffs and landings could only affect a fraction of the area, and only for "two minutes or less", it was pointed out.

A further complaint was that the agency had postulated that air controllers would hold Concorde at 7,000ft. The British insisted that on most occasions it would be permitted to climb as soon as possible. The agency has not yet answered the British charges.

The last chance for presenting Concorde's arguments will come at the public hearing on January 5 of applications for operations by British Airways and Air France. Dr William Coleman, Secretary of Transportation (to whom a copy of today's British letter was sent) has stated that he will make his final decision within 30 days from then.

Mr Gordon-Cumming made clear today that Britain and France will concentrate their pleading not on Concorde's actual noise, but on the additional noise it brings to the existing high airport levels. The British felt that such incremental noise could not in any sense justify an American refusal.

Like the French before him, Mr Gordon-Cumming said that the British did not find "meaningful" the statement that Concorde, on takeoff, was perceived to make four times as much noise as the Boeing 747.

The official environmental impact statement even says at one point that Concorde is "eight times" as loud, to someone under the takeoff path, as the Douglas DC10 is. The British officials belittled such comparisons and also sought to disparage the recent Greater London Council measurements at Heathrow.

Today's most un-British reaction, after a rather emotional French performance last week, indicates how tense the battle is becoming in the final weeks.

Farewell frisk : A United States Air Force pilot is given a last routine check for drugs by a specially trained dog before flying out of Korat air base, in Thailand, which the Americans have evacuated.

Canberra struggle for Labour leadership

From Michael Leapman
Canberra, Dec 15

A bitter struggle for the leadership of the Australian Labour Party is taking shape after the party's crushing defeat by at least 53 seats in Saturday's election. Former ministers have lost no time in denouncing Mr Gough Whitlam, the present leader, and their old colleagues as they jockey for position in the contest.

Yesterday Mr Whitlam met Mr Robert Hawke, president of the party and of the Australian Council of Trade Unions. Reports in today's newspapers said that they had agreed that Mr Whitlam should remain leader for about a year, by which time Mr Hawke would secure a parliamentary seat and inherit the leadership.

This cosy arrangement does not suit other contenders who are already in Parliament. Mr Clyde Cameron, the former Minister of Labour who was demoted by Mr Whitlam, denounced Mr Whitlam today for making too many mistakes, and said that the electorate had shown they would not support a party led by him. The former Prime Minister was also criticized by Dr Jim Cairns, who resigned as Treasurer in connexion with the loans affair.

Another former Treasurer, Mr Frank Crean, is being suggested as a rival candidate to Mr Whitlam when the Parliamentary Party meets next week to choose its leader. If Mr Whitlam were replaced immediately, this would upset his and Mr Hawke's reported plan for the succession.

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the new Prime Minister, arrived in Canberra today and moved into Mr Whitlam's old office. He said that he would announce the composition of his Government before Christmas. He or one of his senior colleagues is likely to have a meeting with Mr Hawke in a day or two to discuss relations between the Government and trade unions.

Smith-Nkomo talks 'quiet and congenial'

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Dec 15

The first negotiating session in the latest moves to find a solution to Rhodesia's protracted constitutional crisis began here today amid strict security in the middle of an Army barracks. The meeting lasted only one hour and ended with an announcement that special committees are to be set up to investigate various aspects of the constitutional issue.

Both Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, and Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the domestic wing of the divided African National Council (ANC), declined to make any comment about the substance of the talks.

Mr Nkomo described the meeting as "a friendly discussion on the constitutional issue" and Mr Smith said the atmosphere had been "quiet and congenial and very pleasant". He added: "This is the way it should be."

It was clear from Mr Smith's brief remarks, however, that the present round of talks could drag on for some time. He intimated that there would be many more meetings between the two sides and asked waiting journalists to be patient. "It's important stuff this, we can't rush it. We must do it meticulously and carefully."

According to the brief joint statement issued after the talks the special committees will "investigate certain matters" and then report back to their respective sides. When this has been completed a further plenary meeting will be held some time in the New Year. Neither side gave any indication how many committees have been set up or how often they would meet.

Today's talks, which began shortly after lunch, did not take place as expected in the Prime Minister's office but in the handsome white-painted Beit Hall inside the King George VI barracks.

The change of site foiled Mr Nkomo's supporters who had gathered outside the Prime Minister's office and only a handful of them were on parade outside the barracks.

Mr Smith was accompanied by what has now become his "constitutional talks team". It included Mr David Smith, Minister of Agriculture, Mr P. K. Van der Byl, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defence, Mr Reg Cowper, Minister of Public Service, and Mr Jack Mussett, Minister of Internal Affairs.

The Rhodesian team was heavily outnumbered by Mr Nkomo's party of 22 delegates and legal advisers. Mr Nkomo's group includes two British lawyers, Mr Robert Wright and Mr Roland Brown, as well as three representatives of the Zambian Government and Mr Leo Barron, Zambia's Deputy Chief Justice.

Zambia's assistance to Mr Nkomo's wing of the ANC has been strongly criticized by the rival group which remains loyal to Bishop Abel Muzorewa. Yesterday the Muzorewa group criticized Zambia for meddling in Rhodesian affairs and compared its support for Mr Nkomo to "South African and American involvement in Angola".

This attack on Zambia is likely to prove embarrassing to President Kaunda during his present meeting with President Nyerere of Tanzania and President Machel of Mozambique. Both Tanzania and Mozambique favour the Muzorewa wing of the ANC.

Security forces begin Beirut takeover

Beirut, Dec 15.—The first cautious signs of a much-violated ceasefire being fulfilled between the Christian and Muslim communities in Lebanon appeared today along the war-ravaged seafront of Beirut when security forces began taking over strategic buildings.

The fighting between left-wing and right-wing forces dwindled to isolated sniper duels after a week in which some 600 people were killed and 960 wounded in the capital and other areas.

Security forces took over control of the unfinished Hilton Hotel, which had been used as a right-wing Phalangist firepost against leftist forces occupying the St Georges Hotel and the Phoenicia Hotel.

Government forces had planned to move the Muslim leftists out of the St Georges and the Hilton, but a stalemate seemed likely when the leftists said they would not withdraw until the Phalangists abandoned the Holiday Inn—a 26-storey building overlooking the entire seafront. The leftists said that only then would they also leave the Murr tower, an unfinished skyscraper standing about 800 yards to the east of the Holiday Inn.

The Government remained so cautious over the whole operation that they did not officially announce that all sides had supposedly reached full agreement on putting the ceasefire into practice. This confused local newspapers, some of which referred to an entirely new ceasefire, making it the sixteenth in 12 weeks, while others spoke of the seventeenth, eighteenth and even nineteenth ceasefire.

Fifth Avenue puts on its best for Christmas

From Patrick Brogan
New York, Dec 15

New Yorkers took to the streets yesterday because it is the Christmas season, because it was a fine day and because all traffic had been excluded from Fifth Avenue for 23 blocks. Making a "mall", as they call it, out of that famous avenue is the perennial ambition of New York's utopians. Yesterday's demonstration was proof of what an excellent idea it is.

Big crowds listened to Negro spirituals outside St Patrick's Cathedral, and even bigger crowds watched "ethnic dancing" on the steps of the City Library. This meant that boys and girls dressed up in embroidered smocks and jigged round to East European or Balkan music.

In between, children roller skated, people played netball or table tennis and listened to the carillon and a steam organ. The carillon was operated manually and very jolly, playing Christmas carols and related music; the huge organ tooted and tinkled.

The spectacle was enjoyed by tens of thousands of people who watched the fun, watched one another and stared with a wild surmise at the glories of the shop windows. If New York, or the United States, is in a recession, it is not noticeable on Fifth Avenue.

Most of the garbage had been cleared up along Fifth Avenue, although the occasional whiff of decomposition could be caught out of the side streets. Mr Abraham Beame, the mayor, walked down the avenue and was received politely, another reminder that this was a Sunday fairy tale and that the horrors of the real world return on the morrow.

Cambodians approve new 'democratic' constitution

Bangkok, Dec 15.—A national congress of 1,100 members representing workers, farmers and soldiers yesterday approved a new constitution for Cambodia, Phnom Penh radio announced today.

Details of the constitution's contents were not given, but the broadcast said its formulators had wanted to create in Cambodia a "true democracy, without either rich or poor" and a country that was neutral, independent and non-aligned.

The congress was presided over by Mr Penn Nouth, the Prime Minister, and Mr Khieu Samphan, his deputy, who presented the constitution to the congress, the radio said. It added that the constitution was the product of work organized after a special congress held in April, a week after the Khmer Rouge victory in Cambodia.

The announcement of the constitution was one of the rare occasions on which Phnom Penh radio has made mention of internal Cambodian politics. It was difficult to determine whether the formulation of the constitution represented a broadening of the political base in the country.

Interviews with scores of Cambodian refugees in Thailand over the past few months indicate that all power in the country rests with the Khmer Rouge and that average citizens are kept in the dark about matters related to the government of the country.

Thai and Cambodian authorities have agreed on a ceasefire in a disputed border area in order to make way for negotiations, Foreign Ministry sources in Bangkok reported today. The dispute arose after both sides claimed ownership of an area near the Thai village of Ang Sil.

Thai and Cambodian forces have been fighting in the area since Friday. Reliable reports say three Cambodian and two Thai soldiers have been killed.—AP and Agence France-Presse.

Moscow meeting of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers

Moscow, Dec 15—A conference of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers opened today in Moscow. The unannounced session came on the heels of last week's Nato foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels.

Western diplomats said representatives of the Soviet Union and its East European allies regularly gathered after top-level Nato conferences.

With no details of the agenda provided by Tass or other official sources, diplomats could only speculate as to topics of discussion. Among them were likely to be plans for a European communist conference, coordination of economic policies and implementation of last summer's Helsinki Conference.—UPI

A leader of the MPLA gives his version of events

Britain 'being misled' over Angola

By Roy Lewis

Several EEC members, as well as Sweden and Finland, shortly will recognize Dr Agostinho Neto's MPLA regime as the legitimate Government of Angola, one of his close associates told *The Times* this weekend. He said he regretted that Britain was being so misled by its newspapers and the BBC, and was missing the boat in Angola, which was "an undiscovered Brazil of the future".

Big American corporations had told the MPLA they would cooperate and defy their own Government so long as arms were not involved.

Mr Arslan Humberaci was until recently officer in charge of special missions attached to the office of Dr Neto. He is a British citizen of Turkish origin and a member of MPLA. After recuperating from an illness, he expects to return to take part in the restructured Angolan Administration.

Angola was not going to be Russia's Vietnam, but it would be another American Vietnam, Mr Humberaci said. The Russians would not make a colony of Angola and would not be given any bases there because the MPLA was non-aligned. The Russians had not sent any aid whatever to the movement until after independence on November 11, because the Portuguese would not allow it.

Russian aid was only solicited after the Portuguese left in order to counter the large-scale aid given to the rival nationalist groups of FNLA and Unita by the Central Intelligence Agency, Zaire, France and South Africa.

The CIA, Mr Humberaci said, had been helping the FNLA even before the Portuguese revolution; and the Portuguese High Commission in Angola had deliberately left the northern frontier undefended so that American aid could be flown from West Germany into Carmona. The British media had got the order of events wrong, even though the American press had admitted the involvement.

Last February, the FNLA and Unita, heavily armed, had attacked the MPLA treacherously in Luanda, where the Portuguese brigadier had said he expected the FNLA to "eat" the MPLA; but the MPLA, relying on sheer fighting spirit and the few arms that had been smuggled in from Zambia and other places, and with some aid from Yugoslavia and Algeria, had repulsed the attack, because they had a cause. The people of the area, armed only with machetes and chains, had risen in support of the movement. As a special favour he himself had been issued with a revolver to defend himself.

The West should grasp this reality: the FNLA and Unita have no cause and without their mercenaries would not fight; the Zaire Army was nothing; what had really happened was that after the Luanda battle the South Africans had attacked in the South in what the MPLA commander described as a "real invasion by a classic army".

The people had seized the other cities outside Luanda for the MPLA, and when the South Africans had seen that their presence was indispensable, they had returned. Thus the MPLA was now involved in its second war of liberation.

Mr Humberaci took the view that the Russians would provide what was needed to win that war—and what they were doing was much more important than the Tanzam railway or the Aswan Dam. The reason was that the MPLA, linked with Frelimo in Mozambique and the PAIGC in Guinea Bissau after their long wars against the Portuguese, represented a totally new force in Africa compared with regimes which had been handed independence on gold plates. Mr Humberaci emphasized that his view of the position was his own opinion, not an official MPLA one.

On the Cubans, he told me that they were only instructors, and their presence was natural as many MPLA fighters had been trained in Cuba. The heavy Russian equipment now coming in would enable the MPLA to saturate the mercenaries on the other side with sheer firepower.

He believed that the supporters of the other bodies—which he did not accept as liberation movements in any way—would come to terms, and their areas would be pacified. The South African intervention had surprised the MPLA, which had not considered that it would have any quarrel with the Republic for many years to come.

Meanwhile, Mr Neto's regime had been recognized by 32 countries, the others by nobody, and that was enough to settle matters. Mr Humberaci felt that other governments would change their minds.

Retreating forces sabotage railway

Nairobi, Dec 15.—Zambia and Kenya today called for a ceasefire between Angola's warring nationalist movements as a first step towards the formation of a government of national unity.

The call came in a statement issued by President Kenyatta of Kenya, and President Kaunda, of Zambia, who had talks here over the weekend. President Kaunda flew on this morning to Dar es Salaam.

The statement expressed great concern at foreign involvement in Angola, which had resulted in a heavy loss of life. It called on the three main movements to seek a political solution.

Our Lusaka Correspondent writess: Forces of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) were today reported to be blowing up bridges on the Benguela railway, a vital transport link with the two neighbouring countries of Zaire and Zambia.

According to reliable information reaching here today, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) took the town of Luso last week, forcing the MPLA to retreat to the north and east. As they retreated they put the railway out of action for what is expected to be several months.

Before the civil war, the railway used to carry about 50 per cent of Zambia's copper exports, as well as many of its vital imports.

Delhi seeks ban on prisoners' rights

Delhi, Dec 15.—The Indian Government, arguing that it has unlimited powers under the six-month-old national emergency, today asked the Supreme Court to bar all habeas corpus actions by prisoners. Stung by lower court rulings that prisoners still had the right to challenge their arrests, the Government urged the Supreme Court to accept a sweeping doctrine that during the emergency any measure could be adopted to restrict personal rights and liberties—even if such restrictions would normally be considered illegal.

Mr Niren De, the Attorney General, told the bench of five, presided over by Chief Justice Ajit Nath Ray: "I know even my conscience is shocked to say that this Government can do anything unlawful during the emergency; but this is not a question of anyone's conscience being shocked."

The issue was simply that the Government had the power under the constitution—which it invoked after declaring the emergency on June 26—to prohibit citizens from approaching the courts to guarantee fundamental rights such as personal liberty and protection against unlawful arrest.

"In times of emergency, the interests of the state must be placed above those of the individual even in respect of fundamental rights", Mr De said. "Everything under the sun and any type of proceedings seeking personal liberty of a citizen are barred."

One of the Indian constitution's fundamental rights—equivalent to the American Bill of Rights—is Article 21, which says that "no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law"; But a day after the emergency was proclaimed, the Government suspended enforcement of the guaranteed rights. It also suspended other rights, such as free speech and expression.

Through other executive ordinances, the Government armed itself as well with powers to detain people.—AP.

300 Fretilin troops said to have surrendered

Jakarta, Dec 15.—Some 300 troops of the left wing Fretilin movement have surrendered to their pro-Indonesian rivals in East Timor's two main towns, informed sources said today.

They said many of those who surrendered in Dili and Baucau were among the Fretilin forces who fled to the hills when pro-Indonesian troops, backed by Indonesian units, captured Dili, the capital, a week ago.

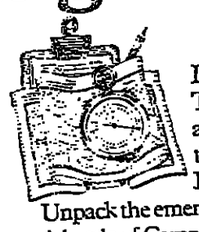
They added that the Indonesian units, officially described by Jakarta as volunteers, had continued to support pro-Indonesian forces in subsequent operations, leading to the surrender of the Fretilin troops.

Indonesia's semi-official Antara news agency reported that Baucau and its international airport, which it previously said had been badly damaged by retreating Fretilin forces, had not been destroyed.

Nine Indonesian cargo ships carrying food supplies had arrived in Dili and two in Baucau, bringing much needed food supplies to the two towns.

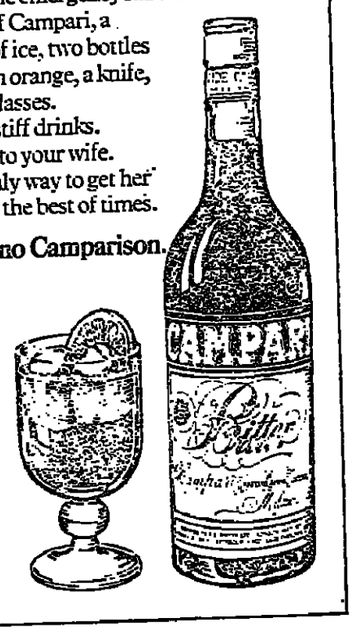
Melbourne, Dec 15.—A message received from Fretilin said today that its forces had killed 150 "enemy soldiers" yesterday in attacks on Dili.

To be taken when your big end goes.



Directions:
The other competitors are belting past you to the Forestry checkpoint.
Remain calm.
Unpack the emergency rations.
A bottle of Campari, a thermos of ice, two bottles of soda, an orange, a knife, and two glasses.
Mix two stiff drinks.
Give one to your wife.
It's the only way to get her to rally at the best of times.

There's no Camparison.



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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN. 240
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tonight 7.30 The Four Seasons nals. Les Biches, Tomor. & Fri & Sat. 2 Romeo and Juliet; Sat The Four Seasons, Rituals, Pete Seats available Sat. 2.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Thursday 8.00 Royal Opera Bene Fund Gala—L'elisir d'amore; 7.30 L'elisir d'amore. Seats Thur.

COLISEUM. 01-836
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPE
Tonight & Fri. 7.30 La Belle Tomor. & Salome: Thur. No per 4.30 The Valkyrie.

SADLER'S WELLS TH., Rosebery ECI. 837 1672 (Recorded bk 278 8430. Until March 20. Eve Mats. Wed., Sats & Dec. at 2.30. D'OYLY CARTE in Gi and SULLIVAN. Tonight & Trial by Jury and HMS Pi Thur., Fri. & Sat: Pira Penzance.

CONCERTS

AUTUMN AT SNAPE MALTINGS
Saturday, 20th December, 8
PIANO RECITAL—FOU TS
Chopin, Schubert, Debussy
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Tel.: 07 2885 2833

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Tomo
LONDON MOZART PLAYERS
Bleach, Peter Frankl, Barry T
Prog incl: Mozart: Piano C K.456, Strauss: Horn Concert Mozart: Symphony No 35 (H

THEATRES

ADELPHI THEATRE. 01-83
Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Thur., Sat
JEAN SIMMONS JOSS ACKLAND in
A LITTLE NIGHT MUS
"Music that ravishes the sens show kissed with genius."—Gu

ALBERY. 836 3878. Repertory
Tonight, Tomorrow & Mon. at 8 at 3 Sat. 8.15. Boxing Da
DOROTHY TUTIN TIMOTHY
DEREK JACOBI JOHN T
"an ecstatic evening"—
A MONTH IN THE COU
"so very funny"—D. Mir
Thur. and Fri. at 8. Mat. Sa
3.45 Boxing Day at 8.1
ROOM WITH A VIEW

ALDWYCH. 836 6404. Inf. 83
Royal Shakespeare Compa
FOR FOUR WEEKS ONLY
Graham Greene's new comc
THE RETURN OF
A. J. RAFFLES
(Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat

AMBASSADORS. 01-836 117
Evenings 8.0. Mat. Tues. 2.30 Boxing Day 5.30 & 8.3
HAPPY AS A SANDBA
THE WONDERFUL HIT MI S
"All the fun of the Forties delightful." Daily Express

APOLLO THEATRE.
RONALD PICKUP in
The Award-Winning Comc
by ALAN AYCKBOURN
THE NORMAN CONQUE
"BEST PLAY OF THE YE Evening Standard Drama
BIRD & BIRD THE GARDEN
Th. 8.15, Sat. 8.30. TABLE MA Tomor. 3.0. Fri., Mon. 8.15
TOGETHER. Tomor. 8.15, Sat.

ARTS THEATRE CLUB. 83
Gt. Newport St. (adj. Leic Unsubsn. Inst. Comp. Membersh 1.0p. Evs. Tues.-Sun. 8. LAST ANNIE 8.45. Mats Wed. & Sats

KENNEDY'S CHILDRE
"a blockbuster." C. Barnes, N

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. 83
Michael DENISON, Derek GRI
THE BLACK MIKADO
"The best musical of 1975" S Evenings 8.0: Wed., Sat. 3.0 &

CASINO THEATRE. 01-43
Red. Price prev. mnr. 7.30. Thur. 7.0. Fri. 7.30. Subs Twice Daily 2.30 & 7.30
DANNY LA RUE
in a New Family Xmas Sho
QUEEN DANNIELLA

COMEDY. 930 2578. Evgs. 8 at 8.30 & 8.30. Mats. Thurs FRANCIS LEIGH ANN MATTHEWS LAWSON BAR
A TOUCH OF SPRING
Directed by Allan Davis
"THIS JOYOUS COMEDY." Ev

CRITERION. 930 3216. Pic. Evgs. 8.15. Mat. Thur. Sat Season extended. ROSENCRANTZ GUILDENSTERN ARE DEA
"Tom Stoppard's superb comedy

DRURY LANE. 01-836
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MICHAEL CRAWFORD I
BILLY
A NEW MUSICAL
"MICHAEL CRAWFORD—A W PING. WONDERFUL STAGE S News of the World. "HE AN SHOW ARE A TREAT." S. E

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OH! CALCUTTA!
NOW IN ITS 6TH YEAR
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DUKE OF YORK'S. 836 5122. Mo. 8. Fri. Sat. & Box Day. 5.30 & LESLIE PHILLIPS, ROY KINNE "Two of the funniest men on the ish stage. Laughs come thick and

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Mats. Dec. 22-Jan. 17.

FORTUNE. 836 2238. Evenings Fridays 9.0, Sat. 6.50 & 9.0 Boxing Day one perf. at 8.
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"Devastatingly funny."—Daily "WICKEDLY FUNNY."—E. N

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ABSENT FRIENDS
"ALAN AYCKBOURN'S FINE FUNNIEST PLAY."—Harold Hi

GLOBE. 01-437 1592. Evenings Mats. Wed. Sat. & Boxing Da
RSC—For 11 WEEKS ONL
JANET SUZMAN, IAN McKELLEN
JUDI DENCH ANNA CALDER-MARSHALL
TOO TRUE TO BE GOO
By Bernard Shaw

GREENWICH. 858 7755. Ri
LAST TAPE & IN MEMOR
CARMEN MIRANDA. Tnt. 8.0. Sat. 2.30 & 8.0. BE EVENING. Thur., Fri. 8.0.

GREENWICH. 85
Dec. 26-Jan. 3 CAMELO FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW. 2.30. Eves. 6.30. Jan. 3. mat and HINGE & BRACKET at

GREENWOOD. London Bridge. 05°C. Com. Dec. 22. Stars "Black Beauty." £2.00. 2 Lr
CINDERELLA

HAMPSTEAD. 722 9301.
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HAYMARKET THEATRE.
Opens tonight 7.0. Subs. Ev Mat. Wed. 2.30. Sat. 5.0
Edward Woodward, Geraldine Jennie Linden, Edward Hard in Frederick Lonsdale's
ON APPROVAL

HER MAJESTY'S. 930 6606. Mats. Wed. at 2.30. Sats. and 8.30. Boxing Day 3 The New Hit African Mu
IPI TOMBI
"PULSATING MUSICAL" Ev "The huge cast is superb"

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Ev Dinner 7. MIRROR Company Jean Genet's THE MAI 1.15 Nigel Stock, Prunella CAROL'S CHRISTMAS by Fran

KING'S ROAD THEATRE. Mon. to Th. 9.0. Fri. Sat. 8 Boxing Day at 7.30 and
THE ROCKY HORROR
"Best MUSICAL OF THE —Evening Standard drama

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AMAHL AND THE NIGHT
Sunday, Dec 21st, 3 P
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LYRIC. 01-437 3686. Eves Mat. Wed 3.0. Sat 5.0
JOAN PLOWRIGHT, HELEN JOHN MOFFATT, FRANK FI A new comedy by BEN TR
THE BED BEFOR YESTERDAY
"Wittiest sex comedy of the Y "The Seagull" returns Jan.

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Evenings 8.15. Sat. 6.30 & Billie WHITELAW, Barbara and Dinsdale LANDEN
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"Michael Frayn's comedy is full experience."—E. Sha

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SCOTT'S CHRISTMAS R
Daily 2.0, 4.0, Sat. 10.30

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GULLIVER'S TRAVE
with Mike D'Abo, William
NEW LONDON. 01-
Box 18-Jan. 24. Booking SPIKE MILLIGAN, BERNAR in the Mermaid Treas Award winning Producti
TREASURE ISLAN
Red. price previews tonight tomorrow at 2.30. 5.
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BRUCE FORSYTH
in his own "one man" laugh

NEW VICTORIA.
Opens Dec. 26 at 7.30. 2.30 and 7.30. Sat. 2.30 & 8.30. Richard David Hamilton, Christopher Sally James, Tommy Jenny Tomasin, Connor in Kenneth ALADDIN

ENTERTAINMENTS

THEATRES

OLD VIC. NATIONAL THEATRE 928 7616. Ton't Tomor. 7. Thur. 2. HAMLET Uncut text, runs 4 hours. Note early start. Thurs. at 7.30: JUDGEMENT Some seats held for sale day of performance from 10 a.m.

OPEN SPACE. 580 3070. Tues. Premiere tomorrow at 7.0. Subs. Dec. 18, 19, 20, 27, 28 at 8.0. ARTAUD AT RODEZ by Charles Marowitz.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon. to Th. 8.0. Fri., Sat. & Box. Day. 6.0 & 8.40. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Opens tmr. at 7.0. Subs. daily 2.30 and 7.30 LULU, RON MOODY RACHEL GURNEY in PETER PAN

PHOENIX. 836 8611. Until Jan. 10. A. A. Milne's WINNIE THE POOH. Mat. Dly. 3 pm & Tues., Sat. 11 am.

PHOENIX THEATRE SEASON 1976 January 21 for 8 weeks only: JACK HUDSON JULIET PROWSE "I DO! I DO!" Nightly 8.0. Mat. Thur. Sat. 3.0 Tel. 01-836 8611.

PICCADILLY. (437 4506) Thurs. 8. Fri. & Sat. 6. 8.40 ROYAL VARIETY HIT SHOW KWA ZULU "Probably the most compulsively enjoyable musical show in London." F.T. "A joyous occasion indeed." S. Exp. Now Booking to Feb. 1976.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Opens Dec 22 for 5 wks. only. Twice daily at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m. CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS CAROL The story of Scrooge

PRINCE OF WALES. 01-930 8681 Evgs. 8.0 Fri., Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 HARRY SECOMBE in THE PLUMBER'S PROGRESS "Irresistible, clowning, excellent singing."—D. Mir.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. 01-734 1166 Evenings 8.0. Mat. Thur. 3.0. Sat. & Boxing Day 5.30 & 830 (NO PERFS. December 23-25). ALAN BATES in OTHERWISE ENGAGED A new play by SIMON GRAY Directed by HAROLD PINTER

RAYMOND REVUEBAR THEATRE 734 1593. At 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA '75 Open on Sundays from Jan. 4 Closed Christmas Day only.

REGENT. 323 2707. Evenings 8.30 Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15 BOXING DAY one perf. at 9.15 2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES LET MY PEOPLE COME AN ADULT MUSICAL "Never a dull moment."—E. News. 100 tickets held for sale at door.

ROUNDHOUSE. 276 2564. Prev. Mon. 8. Opens Tomor. 7. Subs. 8. Mats. Dec. 20, 26, 27, 30 & 31. THE GRAND MAGIC CIRCUS

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745. Last week Evenings at 8. Sats. 5 & 8.30 TOM COURTENAY in THE FOOL by Edward Bond

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Evs. 8. Tues. 2.45. Sats. & Bxg. Day 5 & 8 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP WORLD'S LONGEST-EVER RUN 24th YEAR

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evenings at 8. Mats. Wed. at 2.30 & Sat. at 5 Barbara MULLEN and Derek BOND in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER IN THE VICARAGE

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE 01-836 6596 Evs. 7.30. Mat. Wed., Sat. 3.0 ARTHUR LOWE JOHN LE MESURIER, CLIVE DUNN in DAD'S ARMY "Funny and touching . . . total artistic success."—Sunday Times.

SHAW THEATRE. 01-388 1394. 7:84 Theatre Co. England presents LAY BY NOWT by John McGrath. Last week—Evenings 7.30.

SHAW THEATRE. 01-388 1394 KIDNAPPED AT CHRISTMAS New comedy for children by WILLIS HALL. This week: until Fri. 11 a.m. & 2.30. Sat. 2.30 only. From Dec. 29 Jan. 10 at 2.0 & 5.0. Dec. 24 at 2.0 (No perfs. Dec. 25, 26).

STRAND. 836 2660. Evgs. 8.0 Mat. Thurs. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 DORIS HARE Richard CALDICOT, Andrew SACHS NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH Directed by Allan Davis LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH 5th Year Christmas parking allowed nearby.

THEATRE ROYAL, Stratford. E.15. 534 0310. Evgs. 8 (Ton't 7) NICKLEBY & ME! A New Dickens Musical for all the family

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. Evgs. 8. Mat. 2.45. Sats. & Bxg. Day 5 & 8. Margaret LOCKWOOD David DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM DOUBLE EDGE "SUPERB . . . the cleverest who-dun-it I have seen for years." D. Telegraph. Nearby streets NOT affected by Xmas Parking restrictions

VICTORIA PALACE. 834 1317 Evgs. 8.0. Wed., Sat. 6.0 & 8.45. MIKE YARWOOD "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE" . . . greatly enjoyable revue."—Exp.

WEMBLEY EMPIRE POOL. Opens Dec. at 7.45, then Twice Daily at 2. Dec. 24 at 2 only. Dec. 26 and Sats. 2, 5 & 8. LAVISH ICE PANTO DICK WHITTINGTON Children & OAP's half price most perfs. Free parking. 01-902 1234

WESTMINSTER. 834 0283 Evgs. 7.30. Wed. & Sat. 3.30 Chichester Festival Theatre Production NEW CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FOLLOW THE STAR "The Perfect Family Show." S. Ex. Special Mats Today. 18, 30, Jan 1.

WHITEHALL. 930 6692/7765. Lst wks Evgs. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.15, 8.45 "Funniest play in London." Vogue WHAT THE BUTLER SAW

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312 PAUL RAYMOND presents LET'S GET LAID Twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR Closed Christmas Day only.

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028 Mon.-Fri. 8. Sats. 5 & 8 JOHN GIELGUD RALPH RICHARDSON National Theatre Production HAROLD PINTER'S NO MAN'S LAND Directed by PETER HALL "GREAT ACTING AT ITS HIGHEST PITCH." E.N. Must end Jan. 24.

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363 Until 8 CHARLEY'S AUNT. Wed., Thu. 8 MACBETH. Fri. 2 p.m. FANTASTIC FAIRGROUND for families & children: 8 p.m. ALL WALKS OF LEG (from JOHN LENNON) "T'was brillig . . ." Guardian. "Hilarious . . ." Times. Sat. 4 & 8.15 HELLO.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Tnt. Arrabal's THE ARCHITECT & THE EMPEROR OF ASSYRIA. 70p.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. Dng. 8.15. Dng. & Dcg. At 9.30 New Revue SWEET TEMPTATION and at 11 p.m. ROLF HARRIS

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2. Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861 Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE. 1: BARRY LYNDON (A). Wk. & Sun. 2.25, 7.55. 2: LOVE AND DEATH (A) Wk. & Sun. 2.00, 5.30, 8.30. (Last 3 days).

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Joan Micklin Silver's HESTER STREET (A). Progs. 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. Miklos Jancso's ELEKTREIA (A) and Bela Bartok's THE MIRACULOUS MANDARIN (A). 2.40, 4.45, 6.50, 9.0.

ACADEMY THREE. 437 8819. Marcel Carne's LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (A). Show times 4.45, 8.0.

COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave. (734 5414). CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER (X). 2.10, 5.35, 9.00. BLAZING SADDLES (AA). 3.45, 7.15.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737. A WOMAN UNDER THE INFLUENCE (AA). Film at 2.45, 5.30, 8.15. Late show Saturday 11 p.m.

DOMINION, Tott. Crt. Rd. (580 9562) James Caan ROLLERBALL (AA). Sep. Progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.15, 8.00. All seats may be booked.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. ROOSTER COGBURN (U). Progs. Daily 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Sep. perfs. All seats bookable. No phone bookings.

GATE CINEMA. Nott. Hill. 727 5750 FLANDERS "FOX", 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.50 GARDEN FINZI CONTINIS (A) 11.15 a.m. FINZI AGENT & ASS. OF TROTSKY (AA) 11.15 p.m.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE. 930 5252 "See! Hear! Feel!" TOMMY (AA). The Film Event of the Year. Sep. Perfs. 1.30, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 4.30, 8.00. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, HAYMARKET. (930 2738/ 2771). Dustin Hoffman "LENNY" (X). Sep. progs. Wk. 2.00, 5.15, 8.30. Sun. 4.30, 8.30. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE. (930 6111). Temporarily closed for redecorating and refurbishing.

ODEON, MARBLE ARCH (723 2011/ 2) - The Newest and Greatest Musical Cartoon Feature HUGO THE HIPPO (U). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.30. 8.00. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE—HOME OF DISNEY MOVIES—THE JUNGLE BOOK (U). For info 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. progs. Wk. 1.30, 5.45, 8.45. Feature 3.05, 6.20, 9.20. Sat. progs. 11.15 a.m., 3.30, 5.45, 8.45. Sun. progs. 2.45, 5.35, 8.45. Bkble. Late show Sat. 11.45. From Dec. 23rd. Mon.-Sat. Early prog. 11.15 a.m.

PARIS PULLMAN, Sth. Ken. 373 5898 Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PHOENIX (formerly REX). Opp. East Finchley Station. 883 2233. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Progs. 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PLAZA 1 & 2. Regent St., S.W.1. 839 6495. Box Office open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (not Suns.) Glenda Jackson. Michael Caine. Helmut Berger. THE ROMANTIC ENGLISHWOMAN (AA). Daily 3.30, 6.30, 8.20. Sep. perfs. Bookable day only.

GONE WITH THE WIND (A). In 70mm. Progs: Sep. perfs. daily 1.15, 6.50. All seats bookable.

THE ARTS

■ As a result of new collaboration between English National Opera and the New Opera Company, the production of Szymanowski's *King Roger*, which was given its British premiere by the New Opera Company at Sadler's Wells last May, is to be taken into the repertory of the English National Opera, and will be given four performances at the London Coliseum on March 16 and 22 and April 1 and 9. The conductor will again be Charles Mackerras for the first two performances (with Leon Lovett for the April performances), the producer Anthony Besch, and the designer John Stoddart.

CINEMAS

PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181 2nd Great Year EMMANUELLE (X) Sep. perfs. Dly. (inc. Sun). 2.40, 6.15, 9.00. Late Show Fri. & Sat., 11.45. Seats Bkble. Lic'd Bar.

RITZ, Leicester Sq. 437 1234. 3 DAYS OF THE CONDOR (AA). Progs. Daily 1.35, 3.55, 6.10, 8.30.

SCENE 1, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 12.30. Lte Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Ken Russell's LISZTOMANIA (X). Progs. 12.30. 2.30, 4.40, 7.05, 9.25. Lte Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.

SCENE 2, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 1.05. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55. WHAT'S UP DOC? (U). 1.15, 5.10, 9.05. FREEBIE AND THE BEAN (X). 3.05, 7.00. Lte Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55.

SCENE 3, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. THE TOWERING INFERNO (A). Sep. perfs. Dly. 2.00, 5.20, 8.30. Lte Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats Bkble—All Perfs.

SCENE 4, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. 2nd YEAR. THE EXORCIST (X). Directed by William Friedkin. Sep. Perfs. Dly. 12.30, 3.00, 6.15, 9.00. Lte Show Fri. & Sat. 11.30. Box Office Open Daily 10-8, Sun. 12-8. Seats Bkble.—All perfs.

WARNER WEST END Leicester Square. Tel. 439 0791.
1 Telly Savalas, James Mason, Robert Culp. INSIDE OUT (A). Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30.
2 BARRY LYNDON (A) a film by STANLEY KUBRICK starring RYAN O'NEAL, MARISA BERENSON. Sep. progs. Wk. 12.25, 4.05, 7.55.
3 Dirk Bogarde, Ava Gardner. PERMISSION TO KILL (AA) Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. All seats may be booked.
4 A Ken Russell Film starring Roger Daltrey, LISZTOMANIA (X). Cont. progs. Wk. 1.20, 3.40, 6.00, 8.35. Last 2 days.

EXHIBITIONS

OLYMPIA INTERNATIONAL SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS Dec. 17 to 21. TOMORROW: GALA 7 p.m. Thurs. to Sun. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. (Sat./Sun. Evgs. sold) BOOK NOW—OLYMPIA, 01-371 3057.

ART EXHIBITIONS

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 01-629 6176. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: Watercolours and Drawings from Sketchbooks. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30; Thurs. until 7 p.m.

ALAN JACOBS GALLERY CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION FINE OLD MASTER DRAWINGS DUTCH & FLEMISH, 17th C. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 9.30-1.00. 15 Motcomb St., Belgrave Sq., S.W.1. 235 5944.

ALBANY GALLERY, 14 Masons Yard, St. James's, S.W.1. 839 6119. Fine English Watercolours. Until December 19th. Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30.

BRIAN KOETSER GALLERY, 38 Duke St., St. James's, S.W.1. 01-930 6309. YAP PO CHAP—Fine ceramics and PATRICK HAMILTON—Drawings and Watercolours. Until 23 Dec. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30; Sats. 10-1.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART 11 Albemarle Street, W1. 409 1307 Original Graphics for Christmas from £25 Monday-Friday 9.30-5.30; Sats. 10-1

CHRISTOPHER MENDEZ, 734 2385 Gillray & Rowlandson Prints. 51 Lexington St., W.1. Mon.-Fri., 10-6.

COLNAGHI'S, 14 Old Bond Street, W.1 491 7408. English and French 19th Century Drawings and Watercolours and Margaret Stones—Watercolours. Until Jan 10. Dly 9.30-6; Sats 10-1.

FIELDBORNE GALLERIES 63 Queens Grove, NW8. 01-586 3600 ENGLISH & SCOTTISH PAINTING '75

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond Street 01-629 5116 LAURENCE WHISTLER Glass & Paintings by GERALD KELLY

FRY GALLERY 58 Jermyn St., St. James's, SW1 CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION 500 English watercolours and drawings from £1 to £25 Mon.-Fri., 10.00-5.30. 01-493 4496.

GALLERY 21, 13a Grafton St., W.1. 01-493 5932. PRESENTS: Contemporary paintings, drawings, sculpture, prints. Until Christmas. Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30; Sats. 10-1.

GERALD M. NORMAN GALLERY 8 Duke Street, St. James's, S.W.1 CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION Early English Watercolours Until Dec. 20th

GIMPEL FILS, 30 Davies St., W.1. 493 2488. ESKIMO ART drawings, prints, carvings.

HAYWARD GALLERY, South Bank, S.E.1. (Arts Council) Burne-Jones until 4 Jan., Mon.-Fri.: 10-8; Sat. 10-6; Sun.: 12-6. Adm. 50p. Children, students, O.A.P.s: 35p. 10p. all day Mon., Tues.-Fri.: 6-8 p.m. Also admits to New Work II.

HAZLITT GOODEN & FOX 38 Bury Street, St. James's, S.W.1. 01-930 6422. VILLIERS DAVID Oil Paintings, Drawings & Watercolours Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30, until 19th Dec.

JOCELYN FEILDING FINE ART LTD., 28 New Bond Street, W.1. Christmas Exhibition of Watercolours by Sir Albert Richardson, P.R.A. Mon.-Fri.: 9.30-5.30. 01-499 1122

LEGER GALLERIES, 13 Old Bond St. Annual Exhibition EARLY ENGLISH WATERCOLOURS Mon.-Fri., 9-5.30; Sats., 10-1.

LUMLEY CAZALET, 24 Davies St., W1 499 5058. ROBERT BATES—New Watercolours.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W1. AUERBACH, KOKOSCHKA, PASMORE and SUTHERLAND. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30; Sat. 10-12.30. Until 15 Jan.

MOORLAND GALLERY 23 Cork St., W.1. 01-734 6961 Pictures for Presents Until 20 Dec. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-6; Sats. 10-1.

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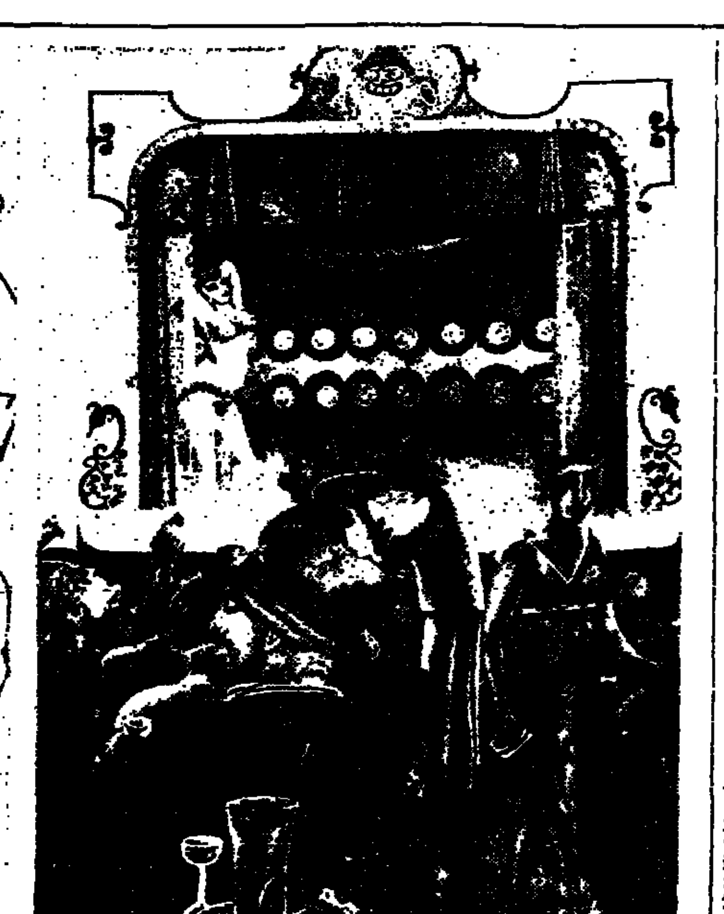

In Society—*left*, Peter de Francia : Waiting for the Barbarians, and, right, Edward Burra : Strip-tease

People in the public eye

Paul Overy

Body and Soul is a large and intriguing exhibition of contemporary British art at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool. It has been sponsored by Peter Moores and chosen by Norbert Lynton, recently appointed Professor of the History and Theory of Art at Sussex University. Lynton has combined the function of critic, exhibition organizer and teacher to produce a show which is a model of its kind.

Its theme is an art directly concerned with people and not surprisingly mainly figurative, although the abstract paintings of Robyn Denny have been included under the heading "The Implied Presence". They don't really seem to fit, but that's just one of the reasons why the exhibition *is* good, because it's personal and idiosyncratic as well as didactic, and that gives one something to react against. It's clearly the choice of one person rather than a committee. It's divided into five sections and apart from "The Implied Presence" there is "Report and Scrutiny", "Pain", "Love and Sex" and "In Society". These serve as a useful framework. Exhibitions are like books where chapter headings and subsections help one along, even if the divisions are relatively arbitrary.

David Hockney might just as well have been in "Love and Sex" as in "Report and Scrutiny" but it is more thought-provoking to find him in a not quite expected category and good to have the well-known and often reproduced *Peter Getting out of Nick's Pool* from the Walker's own collection (it won the John Moores in 1966) shown alongside more recent drawings and etchings of Celia Birtwhistle and Hockney's parents. Allen Jones—inevitably under "Love and Sex" although there's no love here—is represented by both early and late work, the sexual obsessions of his imagery increasingly synthetic and indulged without any distancing devices. The group of paintings by Francis Bacon exhibited under "Pain," are mainly early, although mostly well-known works, the paint more obtuse, the *grand guignol* less personal than recently. It is easy to see why John Davies's three suppliant figures should be under "Pain", less why the paintings by Boyd and Evans should be. The group, though provokes thinking about the real content of their work.

"In Society" sets Edward Burra alongside L. S. Lowry, and in the comparison Lowry seems bland and repetitive; Burra has an eye for nastiness which gives his work its edge. The work of the artists in this section is mainly graphic, naturally the medium of social comment. Chris Orr's busy drawings invite close inspection and are full of comic cameos, although the total effect is somewhat fey and unfocused. Peter de Francia's satirical drawings have been compared to George Grosz but in reality are closer to Max Beckman. One would have thought that Beckman—a great and, in Britain at least, underrated artist—was too much of an individualist to offer a fertile influence today, but de Francia proves this wrong. His large sardonic drawings repay careful looking at. *Waiting for the Barbarians* is a successful visual equivalent for the poem by Cavafy, a poet who seems to bring out the best in British graphic artists. It is a pity Lynton couldn't also have included Hockney's Cavafy etchings which are the best things he has done and which haven't been shown in England for some years.

Under "The Implied Presence" Rita Donagh has an impressive series concerned with Northern Ireland, most of which include some element of collage. (There is a related picture in the *Collage* exhibition at Angela Flowers gallery which I reviewed last week.) Previously Rita Donagh's work has seemed over-intellectualized and formal—a style in search of a subject. Now this has provided her with a distancing device for an emotionally explosive subject-matter.

The exhibition starts with three strong pictures by Patrick Caulfield. Their simplicity contrasts with the complexity of his recent paintings at the Waddington Gallery in London. But these modern odalisques, *Nude with books*, *Italian girl* and *Girl in a doorway*, stand appropriately at the beginning of an exhibition which is intelligent, sometimes irritating, and filled at every turn of its carefully arranged spaces with a sense of personal involvement and commitment to an idea.

New Work 2 at the Hayward is the second of a series of exhibitions which is presumably intended as the Arts Council's answer to criticism that it was not showing enough work by living British artists. Although both exhibitions have had some reasonably interesting work in them, the cautiously "balanced" selection has been only too clearly the work of a committee. With no kind of linking thematic structure like that at Liverpool, the effect is confusing and in the end self-defeating. Carl Plackman, for instance, is a young artist whose work was included both in *New Work 1* and in *Body and Soul*; yet I found I understood much better what he was about from the Liverpool show than at the Hayward.

New Work 2 includes John Ashworth, Nicholas Monro, Peter Startup, Victor Newsome, Bryan Kneale, Malcolm Hughes and Trevor Halliday. Gerald Newman's beautifully restrained and imaginative evocation of sunset soars above the general level. A tape loop of birdsong through two loudspeakers and a simple placard in black and white announcing "View/West/Sunset" are its only physical constituents. The rest is left to the spectator: to visualise and meditate upon this calm scene in the reverie of one's own subtly triggered imagination.

Tetley in Stuttgart

Arne Nordheim has said that he is aware of the political and sociological meaning lately given, in English and especially in American, to the word *Greening* which provides the title of his latest orchestral composition. But the traditional meaning of the word has long held a place in his mind, because the sprouting up of a single cell is as important in music as in nature. That, as I understand it, is what this fascinating and exciting score is about: the gradual, natural development of melody, rhythm and tone budding from an initial sound.

It is a quiet, still piece, but never for a moment slackening its grip on the imagination. Those who have seen the score tell me that it works by gradual accretion, but not to crude crescendoes: most of the time it is almost hushed, with a sense of waiting. For Glen Tetley's staging of it as a ballet in Stuttgart, Nordheim has prefaced the main score with his shorter *Epitaphio* and written a bridge passage for percussion.

The ballet carries a sub-title *In Erwartung des Regens* ("Waiting for Rain"), which indicates how Tetley has seized upon the sense of expectancy in the music. Without wanting to quibble, I think it would be fair to say that the yearning arm movements which characterize much of the choreography are less precise in their effect than the equivalent musical imagery; but with that reservation the ballet has a rewarding unity of feeling and atmosphere.

Within that unity is an ample variety. There are, for instance, some startlingly fast entries for Yoko Ichino, a Japanese girl, with Kevin Haigen, who has very recently joined the Stuttgart Ballet from American Ballet Theatre. The cast as a whole is indicative of a considerable change in the company's personnel: Birgit Keil in the lead is wel established in Stuttgart but her Swedish partner, Jonas Kage, is also newly arrived via New York, and the second pair of principals, Nora Kimball and Christopher Boatwright, are both black Americans.

The newcomers all show a flair for the smooth, strongly paced Tetley style, and there are several other young faces who attract attention: look out for Lise Houlton and Melinda Witham when the Stuttgart Ballet comes to the Coliseum next summer.

The new production of *Pierrot Lunaire* on the same bill is cast from among the company's Cranko stars, who show themselves equally apt to their new director's style. Marcia Haydée, as you would expect, brings out strongly both the humour and the sexual adventurousness of Columbine. Her washerwoman entry has a keen sense of aggro and her red duenna is as provocatively blatant as her Carmen a few seasons back.

Richard Cragun does not make as much of Brighella as he ought. Perhaps because he actually performs the steps with a more buoyant spring than anyone else I have seen in the role, he seems not to bother much about what they mean in terms of character and situation. Physically he is so right for the part that one wants more.

Egon Madsen has the title part. This is a chameleon role, taking on a different appearance with each new interpretation. Madsen at first seems almost too sweetly charming, but that soon proves only a mask and when he drops it, standing in exposed grief, the melancholy is even more desolating by contrast. The final scene of reconciliation with his two eternal adversaries has true humanity.

Doris Soffel's account of the speech-songs and the taut energy of the instrumental soloists under Stewart Kershaw's direction continue the exceptionally fine musical level on which Kershaw and the Württemberg State Orchestra start the evening. But after Nordheim and Schoenberg comes a distinct falling off.

I suppose the folklore elements in the Third Symphony of Carlos Chavez must have appealed to Tetley, especially the Spanish traces which find the most obvious visual echo on stage. The work is almost all in allegro, but with a heaviness which belies the gaiety that might suggest. A pity, because the choreographer seems to be aiming at a genre new to him, the sort of light-hearted ballet generally decorated with chandeliers and uniforms.

Alegrias has an austere and sickly setting by Jürgen Schmidt-Oehm, shiny yellow side-panels and a plain backcloth lit different colours for each movement. After Rouben Ter-Arutunian's evocative scaffold for *Pierrot Lunaire* and Nadine Baylis's skeletal metal tree brooding over *Greening*, it seems an abdication of imagination.

Now and again Tetley overcomes the drawbacks of music and setting for a flash of elegantly simple wit. The most sustained example is the sequence where Eileen Brady repeatedly starts a phrase, delicately picking her way about the stage, to be joined successively by more and more other dancers, then left alone again to resume as she began. But some of the choreography looks slapdash, notably the entries for Cragun, Kage and Reid Anderson, which rely far more on energy than on finesse.

The booing with which a substantial minority of the audience greeted *Alegrias* was unfair to the dancers, who had done everything possible with it. And although Tetley must take the blame for choice of music and design, he deserves credit for obviously trying to adapt himself to the company he now directs, as well as moulding them after his taste. This is clearly a transitional period for Stuttgart, and the good intentions of *Alegrias* are as important a pointer to the future as the limitations of their realization; especially as the rest of the programme shows both director and dancers in good form.

John Percival

Smalley/Savage
Purcell Room

Paul Griffiths

Roger Smalley's *Accord* for two pianos, which had its first performance in the recital given by the composer and Stephen Savage on Saturday night, is his biggest and most ambitious work so far. Lasting for about threequarters of an hour, it sets out to create from the most basic ingredients a richly-varied musical world, a world peopled with figures from the keyboard literature of the past, and with quite a few that are new.

One may be incidentally and indirectly reminded of Stockhausen and Scarlatti, Debussy and Beethoven, Boulez and Liszt, but these shadowy reminiscences are inevitable in a work which includes such a diversity of harmony and texture. A truer parent is surely Busoni, whom Smalley has acknowledged as an influence. Indeed, the mind which produced those furious decorations of Bach is not far removed from Smalley's, for in *Accord* too, one senses an organized ground plan which is overlaid by a flamboyant diffusion of almost manic fantasy.

As with Busoni, again, the music gives the impression of a phenomenal inventive capacity constrained by obsession. The result is an atmosphere of nagging volubility which is at once disturbing and tantalizingly seductive. It is an atmosphere which has given Smalley's music much of its potency; *Accord*, like many of his other pieces, sounds both fluent and frustrated. This is not to suggest any limitation in his technique, which is unusually sure and wide-ranging, but to pinpoint an expressive characteristic of his style.

With *Accord* Smalley has established that style firmly and strongly; the work seems to be a culmination of what he has achieved in the past few years. It is an engulfing experience for the hearer, one which proceeds without remit from the slow and heavy spread of sound with which it begins, an ominous curtain-raising, to the resolutions of its far-flung harmonic adventures in octaves across both pianos. I shall enjoy getting to know the work, as I look forward to Smalley's future output.

The other new piece in the recital, Berio's *Memory*, was a much lesser thing. It sounded like a failed sketch for his double piano concerto, given some character by the introduction of Bach and Mozart quotations above some typically light and busy trembling.

On the previous evening in the Queen Elizabeth Hall the Belgian composer Henri Pousseur came with the Musiques Nouvelles Ensemble to give a concert of his music. Pousseur is much occupied with musical variability, with providing open situations in which diverse events can be fluidly subsumed. Accordingly he presented in each half of the concert a skein of interwoven threads, picking from his operatic music in the first part and his electronic work in the second.

The hour-long stream of music relating to the opera *Votre-Faust* was disappointingly slack and sluggish. Though many of the songs and instrumental pieces used are attractive and clever works, their qualities were besmirched in this pot-pourri with an almost continuous tape part. When Pousseur was using tape alone, in *Parabole mixe*, the result was still more limp.

Throwing fragments together in an improvisatory fashion is a hazardous undertaking: they may balance each other in the harmony which is Pousseur's aim, or they may just produce an inconsequential mess. On this occasion Pousseur was badly let down by his charming, naive openness.

RPO/Groves
Festival Hall

Joan Chissell

To judge from empty seats, at this season of the year the public prefers seasonable music. Even Sir Charles Groves and those who shared the platform with him on Sunday extolled the delights of spring as if all too keenly aware there were several months to go before the sun really would shine out, as enjoined to do in the introduction of Britten's Spring Symphony.

Nevertheless this was the work on which most rehearsal time seemed to have been lavished. The London Symphony Chorus lived up to its reputation in singing of wide dynamic range and sure attack (except in the softest, high entries). The Wandsworth School Boys' Choir threw in their welcome, slightly raucous, essentially non-ecclesiastical-like timbre with the usual invigorating effect in "The Driving Boy" and "Soomer is icomen in" at the end; this last, rousing finale, with something for everyone to enjoy, was the high spot of the performance. Teresa Cahill, Barbara Robotham and Anthony Rolfe Johnson blended well in mellifluous, light-weight tone. They were well matched in characterization, too, since all were still a little shy in comparison with more experienced forebears in this music. From the RPO it was encouraging to hear some delicate atmospheric evocation, since delicacy was not a noticeable feature of their playing earlier.

The first half, in fact, went to Dvorák, starting with a performance of the Scherzo Capriccioso more rough than ready. The violin concerto was much more enjoyable, thanks to Vaclav Hudecek, aged 23, the Czech soloist, who is a former pupil of Oistrakh. He had tonal warmth and ardour in plenty for the succulent melody of the first two movements, and splendid rhythmic verve for the dance-inspired finale.

New London Consort
Purcell Room

Thomas Walker

The titular coherence of Sunday's programme by the New London Consort, "The Veray Flowre of Chivalrye", was a spurious one, but I do not mean to take up that point because, in fact, the group rode the Middle Ages to a successful conclusion on the basis of a deeper (and safer) coherence, that of interesting music arrestingly performed. Their chosen domain, which began about 1100 and ran to the early sixteenth century, included the usual vast number of secular and instrumental titbits, but one was less conscious than usual of fragmentation, I think, because of the confident ensemble and generally high technical level.

The ghosts of other groups occasionally walked the hall, as in Philip Pickett's recorder rendition of "Istampitta Tre Fontana", a piece of subdued Munroviana, and in the Morrowesque raucousness of Margaret Philpot's "Al Vol". Eclecticism in those cases, however, was no serious vice.

Philpot's other contributions provided some of the most entertaining moments. I particularly enjoyed the flawless mosaic of contralto, crumhorn and rebec in Vaillant's bird-call virelai "Par maintes foys" (fourteenth century), and the smoothly presented vocality of Dufay's setting of Petrarch's "Vergine bella". There was a good Machaut group as well, with an up-tempo but nicely balanced reading of the motet "Qui es promesses", in which Philpot was joined by the airy but sure tenor of Paul Elliott.

Also by Machaut was the monophonic virelai "Douce dame jolie", for whose omission from medieval music programmes I am about to offer a prize. The inclusion of this piece was indicative of a tendency not to dig very deeply in the repertory, concentrating on effective presentation of the available.

Galina Samsova
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Peter Williams

The idea of drawing musicians and dancers together on the same stage, so that they become an integral part of the whole design, is an imaginative one which could open up a whole new horizon in the music/dance relationship. The combination of the Nash Ensemble with the Samsova/Prokovsky New London Ballet at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday evening might have been a new milestone.

Unfortunately, three out of the four danced works in the recent programme did little to further this relationship. Prokovsky's duet to Fauré's Elegy in C minor (played by Christopher van Kempen, cello, and Clifford Benson, piano) was a well-written elegiac confrontation more suited to gala concerts in the theatre, though beautifully danced by Marian St Clair and Michael Beare.

Commedia dell' arte themes seldom work in dance, and I can think of only one that was ever totally successful—Massine's *Pulcinella* to Stravinsky for Diaghilev. Two in one programme seemed excessive, and *Zany*, with a commissioned score from Daryl Runswick using serial techniques, amounted to total confusion. The choreography by Patrick Wood and Richard Sikes treated the traditional *Commedia* figures in a manner that bore little relation to the nature of the score, while Peter Farmer's designs were equally conventional. Prokovsky's *Commedia I* eschewed any form of scenario, although the instrumentalists, in Richard Rodney Bennett's astringent but excellently fashioned score, each represented a *Commedia* character. The dances for Samsova and four men amounted to an elaborate adagio with occasional interruptions when they paraded in acknowledgment to the public.

The one really successful work was a revival of Ronald Hynd's nostalgic *Valses nobles et sentimentales*, Ravel's score (which was intended for the theatre anyway), played on a solo piano by Clifford Benson. It worked equally well in the concert hall, and Samsova gave a superb performance as the solitary girl who causes emotional upheaval among three contented couples on a cruising liner in the Thirties.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

The Maids
King's Head

Michael Church

If anyone needs proof of the power of Jean Genet's assault upon the reality of "reality", let him simply look at the multiplicity of interpretations which now exist of Genet's work. The "effect of ambiguity" which so delighted Sartre has propelled actors and directors in widely differing directions: when every mode of social, psychological and sexual existence both feeds on, and does violence to, its opposite, anything—well, more or less anything—goes.

Last year the mime artist Lindsay Kemp extrapolated the flowers, feathers and fair flesh of it all. Now *we* have a production of *The Maids* which stands at the opposite extreme: the Louis Quinze *boudoir* specified in the original text has been turned into a cell in a penal colony.

But in both this and another important respect it is only the letter of the text which is contradicted. Genet himself suggested that the Maids be played by two boys "to confuse the audience", a piece of advice which Herbert Ross followed to excellent effect in *his* ballet of the same name. In this current production by Sue Wilson all three characters are played by men, and the atmosphere is strongly redolent of Genet's own short film about prisoners' fantasies.

By turning the boudoir curtains into corrugated iron and the girls into cropped, unshaven and half-naked convicts, another layer is added to the fantasies within the fantasy, and the whole is infused with an uncanny power. John Webb and David Bedard enact their terrors and stolen delights with burning convictions, while Brian Ralph is as awe-inspiring a Madame as the text would have us believe.

Much is achieved through gesture—*fists*, hands clenched, hands crossed *fastidiously* over the bosom, feet on tiptoe miming absent buskins—and much through beautifully orchestrated climaxes in the dialogue. The day I was there, the audience, in a cold room and on hard chairs, sat spellbound.

SOTHEBY'S SALES IN SOUTH AFRICA

George French Angas, *Zulu Warriors of King Panda's Army*, watercolour, 17½ by 12¾ inches

This Angas watercolour was sold on 31st October 1975 for £4,220 in one of Sotheby's regular auctions in Johannesburg.

The next series of sales, to be held in March, will include Africana, South African Art, Cape Silver, Books and V.O.C. material.

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SPORT

Rugby Union

England selectors bring in Lampkowski

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

By bringing in Lampkowski, the young Headingley scrum half, to play with Cooper in the England side the selectors have made yet another change at half back for the final trial at Twickenham on Saturday. They have also, more predictably, switched Cotton from tight to loose head prop, and promoted Burton on the tight head side. Three changes, one of them positional, have therefore been made from the side they named to play South and West last weekend.

Burton, in fact, played in the senior side at Gloucester when Cotton withdrew with influenza, as did Dixon in Otley's place when the Gosforth No 8 had back trouble. Mysteriously, there is no place for Dixon on either side now—and he is not even named as a reserve.

The pairing of the rugged Lampkowski with Cooper restores a partnership that was on the winning side when North and Midlands beat England in the first trial. It means the demotion of Smith, to play for the Rest with Old, who came on as a replacement full back at Gloucester and is now due for his first trial this season in his accustomed position. Smith and Old have played three games together for England—against Australia in 1973, and against Ireland and France a year later.

Bennett, England's stand-off in the first trial, but dropped to the regional side for the second, now finds himself a reserve as, interestingly, does Page, the scrum half England summoned back for the Calcutta Cup match last season. Page has only recently started to play again after injury.

It was difficult to understand why Rollitt, one of England's clear successes in Australia, could have been left out of last Saturday's trial, and his supporters will be pleased to see his name in the Rest XV. Phillips is preferred to Hendy on the other flank. Rodgers, a sound, strong footballer, partners Horton at lock and Adam plays tight head to Pullin.

Hare gets the full back position in the Rest team, in preference to Richards, and Morley pops up again on the left wing after being left out of the regional team at Gloucester. Wyatt, like Dixon, does not figure in any capacity and, seeing that none of the four wings had the remotest chance of making an imprint last Saturday, he is entitled to wonder just what he has done wrong. He is versatile enough to play on the other flank. Preece was discarded by England at Gloucester but now reappears in the centre alongside French, whose selection has been well earned. But I am sorry to see Kent disappear into limbo, and I hope it may be temporary.

I am surprised the selectors have persisted with Cooper and Smith at half back, but the situation in this key area clearly is so fluid that Smith might fancy that an alliance with Old at this juncture need do his short term interests no harm. Having been at Murrayfield on the day of the first trial, I have to admit that by knowledge of Lampkowski is limited to what I saw of him on television in the England under-23 match against Italy back in September. I remember thinking that he had some very solid virtues for a player in his position.

However, it is puzzling why the selectors, if they fancied the Cooper-Lampkowski combination at Leicester, did not persist with it for the second trial. The history of England at half back over the last decade has been rather akin to a game of musical chairs, and one begins to wonder if the time will ever arrive again when we can write down the names of two players with confidence, and declare that those are the ones who have a clear title to the job. That said, I think the selectors are right in making a minimum of changes to the England side.

Burton (left) and Cotton : position changes for Twickenham.

ENGLAND: A. J. Hignell (Cambridge University); P. J. Squires (Harrogate), A. Maxwell (Headingley), B. Corless (Coventry), D. J. Duckham (Coventry); M. Cooper (Moseley), M. Lampkowski (Headingley); F. E. Cotton (Sale), P. J. Wheeler (Leicester), M. A. Burton (Gloucester), W. Beaumont (Fylde), R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford), M. Keyworth (Swansea), R. M. Uttley (Gosforth), A. Neary (Broughton Park).

REST: W. H. Hare (Nottingham); K. Plummer (Bristol), N. French (Wasps), P. S. Preece (Coventry), A. J. Morley (Bristol); A. G. B. Old (Middlesbrough), S. J. Smith (Sale); B. Nelmes (Cardiff), J. V. Pullin (Bristol), B. Adam (Wasps), A. K. Rodgers (Rosslyn Park), N. E. Horton (Moseley), D. M. Rollitt (Bristol), A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park), G. N. Phillips (Northampton).

Replacements: P. J. Butler (Gloucester), D. A. Cooke (Harlequins), M. Sleeman (Liverpool), W. N. Bennett (Bedford), J. J. Page (Northampton), C. White (Gosforth), J. J. Elliott (Nottingham), P. J. Hendy (St Ives), N. O. Martin (Harlequins), G. Adey (Leicester).

Scotland divide national team for trial

By John Downie

The teams announced yesterday by the Scottish selectors have set the scene for a real old-fashioned national trial at Murrayfield on Saturday (2 pm). Only seven of the side who beat Australia 10—3 on December 6 are in the Blues, the others in the Whites. As it happens there are 11 internationals on each side.

The half back partnership of Telfer and Morgan has been preserved, in the Whites, but every other section of the last national XV has been broken up. Dougall replaces Renwick in what was the national three-quarter line and every row of the pack has been divided between the trial sides.

Yet the 30 players so far named —replacements will be announced later—include only four players who have not hitherto appeared in full national trials. They are Richard Breakey, the Blues stand-off half, Donald Macdonald at No 8 in the same side, and in the Whites team Kennedy, at full back, and Fraser, the tighthead prop.

Bock Macdonald and Fraser are South African-born. Indeed the former's brother and fellow Oxford Blue, Dugald, is a Springbok, having played in the second international against the British Isles in 1974.

Kennedy becomes the third Edinburgh full back in the match. The others, Hay and Irvine, are in the Blues, with the latter again fielded as a wing, which was Kennedy's club position until his more senior colleague, Barr, moved from Watsonians to Melrose.

The three newcomers from English clubs have all been seen north of the border this season as members of Anglo-Scots XVs. Macdonald played against Edinburgh in September before he went up to Oxford. Breakey was chosen twice as a centre but moved to stand-off half when McGeechan was injured in the match against South of Scotland. Against North and Midlands he was partnered at centre by his brother, Nigel, Cambridge's replacement stand-off half in the recent University match.

Probable trial players who could not be considered because of recent injuries are Steele, the London Scottish wing, and the Hawick trio of Cranston, Pender and Barnes. McHarg is still a doubtful starter because of Achilles tendon trouble and Tomes has not played for some time because of a rib injury. But he was due to return to the Hawick side this week.

BLUES: B. H. Hay (Boroughmuir); A. R. Irvine (Heriots FP), A. G. Dougall (Jordanhill), I. R. McGeechan (Headingley), capt L. G. Dick (Jordanhill); R. W. Breakey (Gosforth), A. J. M. Lawson (London Scottish); J. Aitken (Gala), D. F. Madsen (Gosforth), A. B. Carmichael (West of Scotland), A. F. McHarg (London Scottish), R. W. J. Wright (London Scottish), M. A. Biggar (London Scottish), D. S. M. Macdonald (Oxford Univ.), D. G. Leslie (West of Scotland).

WHITES: A. E. Kennedy (Watsonians); A. B. White (Hawick), J. M. Renwick (Hawick), D. L. Bell (Watsonians), D. Shedden (West of Scotland); C. M. Telfer (Hawick), D. W. Morgan (Stewart's-Melville FP); J. McLauchlan (Jordanhill), capt, C. D. Fisher (Waterloo); J. A. Fraser (London Scottish), A. J. Tomes (Hawick), G. L. Brown (West of Scotland), W. Lauder (Neath), G. Y. Mackie (Highland), W. S. Watson (Boroughmuir).

Referee: A. M. Hosie (Hillhead).

Five Lions backs chosen by Barbarians

By Peter West

Building for their big match of the season, against the Australians in Cardiff on January 24, the Barbarians pay Leicester the compliment of fielding a glittering back division, including five British Lions, for their annual encounter at Welford Road on Saturday week. Bennett and Edwards are the halves, John P. R. Williams is at full back, and Gibson and Duckham form one-half of the three-quarter line.

The other backs are Gravell, the Welsh centre, and Tikoisuva, the ebullient and versatile Fijian who has been playing most of the season at stand-off half for Harlequins, and is now due to appear in the position he adorned for his country on tour here some years ago.

Gravell and Tikoisuva will be playing their first game for the Barbarians. So, too, will Nelmes and Knill, the two props. A combination of Wheel and Wilkinson at lock, and of Rollitt, Uttley and Slattery at loose forward, should ensure a good combination of basic and spectacular play. The hooker is Madsen, who has won eight Scottish caps

Team:

BARBARIANS: J. P. R. Williams (London Welsh); P. B. Tikoisuva (Harlequins), R. W. R. Gravell (Llanelli), C. M. H. Gibson (NIFC), D. J. Duckham (Coventry); P. Bennett (Llanelli), G. O. Edwards (Cardiff); B. G. Nelmes (Cardiff), D. F. Madsen (Gosforth), M. Knill (Cardiff), G. A. D. Wheel (Swansea), R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford), D. M. Rollitt (Bristol), R. M. Uttley (Gosforth), J. F. Slattery (Blackrock College).

Australian team spirit should prove decisive

The Australian rugby touring team, moving into peak form for their match with Wales on Saturday, should prove too strong for Glamorgan at Neath today. The Australians, who have rattled up 64 points in their last two games, include eight of the internationals who played against Scotland.

Their prolific scoring full back, Paul McLean, is rested. John Hindmarsh moves back for Ken Wright and Rod Hauser takes over at half back. Wright, who has yet to produce the form he showed in Australia when he was their number one stand-off half, could be the weak link in the Wallabies' line-up.

Breathing down his neck will be Glamorgan's only two internationals, Wilson Lauder, the Scottish flanker who is leading Tom David. Glamorgan's greatest the side, and the British Lion, weakness lies in the fact that they have never played together before. They are a hotch-potch of six clubs and the Australians' team spirit and fitness is likely to prove decisive.

The match presents the Australian centre, Geoff Shaw, who has made a quick recovery from a hamstring injury, with the opportunity of leading the side, in the absence of John Hipwell, to only their second victory in Wales on this tour.

GLAMORGAN: C. Bolderson (Pontypridd); V. Jenkins (Bridgend), P. Phillips (Maesteg), C. Riley (Pontypridd), D. Judd (Pontypridd); I. Lewis (Bridgend), A. Walters (Bridgend); C. Williams (Aberavon), G. Davies (Bridgend), A. Davies (South Wales Police), R. Penberthy (Pontypridd), R. Hughes (Neath), T. David (Pontypridd), G. Williams (Cardiff College of Education and Bridgend), W. Lauder (Neath, captain).

AUSTRALIANS: J. C. Hindmarsh; J. R. Ryan, R. D. L'Estrange, G. A. Shaw (captain), L. E. Monaghan; K. J. Wright, R. G. Hauser; J. E. C. Meadows, P. A. Horton, S. G. Macdougall, G. Fay, G. S. Eisenhauer, J. K. Lambie, D. W. Hillhouse, G. K. Pearse.

Scots limit crowd

Scotland's home internationals this season against France on January 10 and Englaand on February 21 will be all-ticket. A limit of 70,000 has been placed on the attendance, with 50,000 standing.

Today's fixtures

UNDER-23 INTERNATIONAL: Scotland v Romania (at Falkirk FC, 7.30).

FA CUP: Second round replays (7.30): Crystal Palace v Millwall; Rochdale v Gateshead; Tooting and Mitcham v Leatherhead.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Third round (7.30): Bexley v Gravesend; Cambridge City v Wealdstone. Premier division: Dunstable v Tonbridge (7.30). SOUTHERN LEAGUE: First division: North (7.30): Corby v Bedworth; Wellingborough v AP Leamington.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE (7.30): Morecambe v Great Harwood; Lancaster v Macclesfield; Runcorn v Skelmersdale.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Slough Town v Oxford City. Second division: St Albans City v Boreham Wood.

RUGBY UNION: Tour match: Glamorgan County v Australians (at Neath, 2.15).

CLUB MATCH: Bristol v Moseley (7.30); Pontypridd v RAF (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: Floodlit competition: Final: St Helens v Dewsbury (at St Helens (7.25).

Football rules at Wembley but not all OK

By Neil Allen

Will London's Wembley Stadium continue to be synonomous with top class football? The answer should come next June when the directors of Wembley Stadium Limited will meet the Football Association to review a contract with the FA which runs out in 1982.

Wembley's managing director, James Harvie-Watt, gave details yesterday of a £20m scheme, originally considered back in 1972, to develop the Wembley complex. This includes the Empire Pool, used for gymnastics, boxing, ice "spectaculars", tennis, basketball and "pop" concerts, as well as a new £13m international conference hall, and a £400,000 squash centre. But king football holds the key to the future.

The FA have been investigating the possibility of building their own stadium. But Mr Harvie-Watt suggested yesterday that such a project was "not on" in the present economic climate. He had had an architect's estimate of a "no frills" stadium costing £13m, one year ago, and now inflation was supposed to be rising at 25 per cent. He added: "The FA want a review of our contract, too. They don't want to wait until, say, 1979." His company also have to consider the cost of improvements to the stadium which may be required under the Safety at Sports Grounds Act some time next year. That could amount to more than £500,000.

The FA are concerned about the payments they have to make to the stadium—25 per cent of the gross receipts—which were more than £240,000 last year. Wembley, on the other hand, are now interested in having season tickets for international football and a 72,000 all seated stadium rather than the present capacity, including standing spectators, of 100,000.

If a lady spends money on a face-lift she hopes to get courtesy from her admirers. But there were some sickening stories of public misbehaviour told yesterday by Mr Harvie-Watt and his staff, including the fact that the smell of urine was still unmistakeable in the terraces of the stadium three weeks after the England-Scotland match. Graffiti, sprayed on by aerosol, does not help the Wembley image either.

Boxing supporters, as I can vouch, are much more likely to be house trained. But Mr Harvie-Watt expressed serious doubts about the future of this sport at the 11,000 seat Empire Pool after crowds of less than 4,000 for the last two promotions there by Mr Harry Levene. There is the possibility, however, of private club boxing at the new conference centre, which has a normal seating capacity of up to 2,700.

Wembley are still considering refurbishing the floor of the Empire Pool—used for the 1948 Olympic swimming—at a cost of "anything between £80,000 and £200,000." In the meantime all buffets and bars are being improved at a cost of over £60,000, about £15,000 is being spent on the players' dressing-rooms in the stadium, and more money is being invested in a new box office, a clearer public address system, overhead pedestrian walkways, and surface parking round the stadium.

Wembley, spending about £600,000 on improvements, acknowledging greyhound racing as the largest part of its present income, concerned about traffic problems and protests by local residents about noise or disorder, is more than half a century old. Its head is a little bloody, but remains unbowed. Yet who could blame its directors for pointing out, in yesterday's press handout: "No subsidy is received from local or central Government or any of the sporting associations in this country." I would not blame them if they sent the Minister for Sport a policeman, helmet in hand, seated on an old white horse. Even sporting legends are worth pawning these days.

Football

West Ham prospect of wall and segregation

West Ham United must give urgent consideration to the erection of an inner wall to stop crowd invasion of their pitch. This is one of the findings of the FA Commission of Inquiry, appointed to investigate incidents during the West Ham v Manchester United league match at Upton Park on October 25, when some spectators invaded the pitch, holding up play for 20 minutes.

The Commission said that convincing evidence had been made available, to dispel any suggestion that the main trouble had been instigated by Manchester United supporters. The Commission was also satisfied that the spectators who encroached on to the field did so for no other reason than to avoid being involved in trouble on the terraces.

Urgent consideration to erect an inner wall near the front of the terracing, to provide a walkway for the use of police and other personnel, must be made in cooperation with the police and in accordance with the recommendations of the ministerial working party on crowd behaviour. West Ham are required to keep the Football Association informed of the result of their discussions with the police.

The Commission said that a large area of the eastern side of the south terracing was not acceptable in its present state, mainly because of an insufficiency of crush barriers. They also believed that, subject to any police recommendation, it was necessary for sufficient horizontal and vertical barriers, with suitable gaps, to be installed in that area of the terracing to help segregate home and visiting supporters and to enable the police to have more effective control.

The Commission said that the club must pay due heed to any recommendations made by the local police regarding ticket allocation for a match and also any other aspect of crowd control.

Eddie Chapman, the West Ham secretary, said: "I think the Commission's findings have been very fair, and the situation will be discussed by the Board of Directors tomorrow. The erection of walkways will cost many thousands of pounds I would imagine. With regard to the crush barriers we appreciate that more could be put into the far corner of the ground. As the Commission has said, there is close cooperation between the club and the police."

Chelsea want New Year's Day Cup tie

Chelsea want to play their FA Cup third round tie against Bristol Rovers, at Stamford Bridge, on New Year's Day.

Orient are also considering asking permission to bring forward their tie against Cardiff by two days, to cash in on the bank holiday crowd.

Ron Suart, the Chelsea general manager, said: "With QPR, Fulham and Brentford all drawn at home we feel we should change so that we will all benefit from the crowd point of view."

Orient's match clashes with West Ham's attractive tie against Liverpool. One suggestion is to play on the Saturday morning, but the Secretary, Peter Barnes confirmed: "New Year's Day is another possibility. We are waiting to hear that Cardiff want to do before speaking to the FA."

The FA, however, are likely to come under pressure from the Pools companies not to let clubs switch from a Saturday kick-off. "The committee are also against Sunday matches," added a spokesman. "There are other parts of the country to consider as well. For instance, both Nottingham and Manchester clubs are at home."

Southend yesterday asked Brighton to consider an evening kick-off to their third round tie at Southend, on January 3.

The request follows the success of last Saturday's eevning cup game with Dover, which attracted twice the crowd Southend would have expected for an afternoon match. If Brighton agree, Southend will ask the FA and then Southend Corporation who have to sanction a game to be played on the same day as Southend's general market.

Craig back in under-23 side

Joe Craig, the Partick Thistle striker, wins a recall to the Scotland under-23 side for today's game against Romania at Falkirk. Craig, scorer of 13 goals for his cub so far this season, won his first cap in Denmark in September.

Aston Villa's Gray replaced him in the return tie with the Danes and he scored three goals. That performance gained Gray a place in the full squad for tomorrow's European championship clash with the Romanians at Hampden Park. It also secured Scotland's spot in the quarter-finals of the under-23 competition, which makes today's game of academic interest only.

SCOTLAND UNDER-23: Ross (Partick Thistle); Smith (St Johnstone), F. Gray (Leeds United), Bremner (Hibernian), Hansen (Partick Thistle), Miller (Aberdeen), Conn (Tottenham Hotspur), Pettigrew (Motherwell), J. Craig (Partick Thistle), T. Craig (Newcastle United), Prentice (Heart of Midlothian). Subsitutes: McWilliams (Airdrieonians), Kennedy (Falkirk), McDonald (Celtic), Narey (Dundee United), Smith (Kilmarnock).

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Toronto Maple Leafs 6, New York Rangers 1; Atlanta Flames 7, Buffalo Sabres 4; Montreal Canadiens 7, Pittsburgh Penguins 4; Minnesota North Stars 4, Washington Capitals 4; Boston Bruins 5, Vancouver Canucks 2; St Louis Blues 4, Chicago Black Hawks 3.

WORLD ASSOCIATION: Houston Aeros 4, Cleveland Crusaders 3; New England Whalers 2, Indianapolis Racers 2; Calgary Cowboys 3, Toronto Toros 3; Winnipeg Jets 3, Edmonton Oilers 1; Phoenix Roadrunners 4, San Diego Mariners 2.

Marsh transfer not in best interests of game

Rodney Marsh cannot sign for the American club, Tampa Bay Rowdies, and then be loaned to Crystal Palace, the Football League said yesterday. Alan Hardaker, secretary of the League, said: "The proposed transfer was considered by the management committee yesterday. The committee gave careful consideration to the agreement between Palace and Tampa and decided that such an agreement was not in the best interest of the League, the clubs, the players and the game in general."

He added: "I have informed the clubs that the registration of the player with Crystal Palace and the League would not be accepted as part of the transfer deal."

Marsh must now decide whether he wants to join the American club or wait and see whether another League club shows a belated interest, now that the Palace move is off. Mr R. Varey, a Palace director, said: "That is the end of it so far as I am concerned. If we had wanted to make an outright bid for him we would have done so before." Marsh said: "I'm just puzzled by it all. It is costing me a fortune each week not playing in the first team. You can guess how I feel. I certainly feel that the Football League are depriving me of my livelihood. Everything about the deal was agreed but now I've got to go away and think about it all."

Derby County go down in Egypt

Derby County, the Football League champions, were beaten 1—0 by Zamalek Sporting Club of Egypt. Zamalek scored in the sixteenth minute of the second half.

The match was watched by more than 50,000 spectators who jammed the Nasser Stadium. Zamalek are leading their group in the Egyptian League.—Reuter.

Storey fined by Arsenal

Peter Storey has been fined by Arsenal, after his sending off near the end of the 2—1 defeat at Stoke on Saturday. Storey, who collected more than £10,000 from his testimonial against Feyenoord last week, is understood to have been fined about £50. He will miss Saturday's match against Burnley at Highbury.

Johnny Giles, the West Bromwich Albion player-manager, was fined £25 by a club committee after being sent off at Luton. The committee—players John Wile, Len Cantello, and Tony Brown—were set up by Giles earlier in the season to consider the cases of players sent off or booked. Giles will miss Friday's home game against Southampton.

Latest betting

IRISH SWEEPS HURDLE: Hills: 5-1 Bannow Rambler, 5-2 Night Nurse, 5-1 Comedy of Errors, 8-1 Navigation, 25-1 bar. Ladbroke's, 9-4 Bannow Rambler, 11-4 Comedy of Errors, 5-1 Night Nurse, 10-1 bar. Mecca (Jockeys' championship): 7-4 Tommy Stack, 15-8 John Francome, 6-2 Jonjo O'Neill, 14-1 Ron Barry, 16-1 Colin Tinkler, 25-1 bar.

Tennis

Revised WCT programme offers something for all

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

The sixth World Championship Tennis circuit, which will dominate the calendar for the first four months of 1976, will incorporate drastic revisions, making the programme unusually flexible and varied. The most notable new feature will be a televised series of 15 matches blending competition of three different types: man-to-man challenges (in the jargon of the trade, "one-shot deals"), an all-play-all event and, finally, a traditional knockout climax.

Specially designed for television, the new event will be sponsored by Avis and played exclusively in Hawaii for a total prize fund of £160,000. One man could earn £90,000 or nothing. The fashionable man-to-man format will be honoured by the fact that every match will be played on a winner-take-all basis. There will be £5,000 at stake in every match of the all-play-all series, £25,000 in each match of the semi-final round, and £50,000 in the final.

Though it will span four months instead of a week, the format is basically that of the Masters Tournament, which ends the annual grand prix circuit. Eight men will compete in two groups of four on an all-play-all basis (Ashe, Borg, Newcombe and Ramirez in one group, Alexander, Laver, Nastase and Rosewall in the other). Then comes the knockout section, with the top man in each group playing the runner-up in the other, and the winners clashing in the final.

This Avis competition will be the icing on the cake. The bulk of the WCT circuit remains a series of tournaments (12 in the United States, five in Europe, seven elsewhere) linked by a common points system. Interesting features of the fixture list are that Lagos, Nigeria, has been included for the first time and that Britain has been omitted.

The tournaments will have 16-man draws competing for £30,000. At the end of the circuit there will be cash bonuses according to the players' points totals in singles and (for the first time) doubles. The eight most successful singles players and the eight most successful doubles pairs will qualify for wealthy play-off events.

All the leading men have accepted invitations. Between 50 and 60 players will take part, each committing himself to at least three tournaments and no more than seven. The programme is so flexible that players who wish to do so may also appear on the concurrent American indoor circuit run by William F. Riordan, or represent their countries in the European team championship for the King's Cup.

Mark Cox will be the only British player on the WCT circuit. So Roger Taylor, Christopher Mottram and John Lloyd will be free to concentrate on the King's Cup. Two special WCT events will be the game's biggest indoor tournament, at Philadelphia, and the Aetna World Cup match between Australia and the United States at Hartford, Connecticut.

Without losing its special status as a concentrated test of competitive ability, the revised WCT programme offers something for all. It is difficult to see what more could have been done to meet the wishes of the press and everyone else involved or in some way affected by the circuit.

Cricket

Australia look forward to slower pitches to contain W Indies

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Perth, Dec 15

On the evidence of the last two days Australia can be profoundly grateful that their four remaining Test matches against West Indies are not being played in Perth. If they were, and so long as the West Indians kept their heads as they have done in the second Test match, there could be little future for Australia.

The pitch here has surprised a lot of people by getting faster rather than slower as the days have gone by; as it has dried out in fact. In theory this should have suited Australia, who batted on the first day; instead it has been West Indies who have turned it to advantage by using the extra pace, first to play every attacking stroke in the book, as well as many that are not, and then to bowl faster at the start of Australia's second innings than their first.

For making all this possible, a word first for the curator. Earlier in the match I implied that he might have taken off enough grass to compromise the true character of his pitch; but not at all. There was more bounce in it yesterday than you would expect to find on any other Test ground in the world.

Which is why Australia will be glad to get to Melbourne. Suddenly, and most ironically, the position of the last 12 months appears to have been reversed. Since Thomson and Lillee came together, just over a year ago, nine of their 11 Test matches in partnership have been against England, who have the batsmen to contain them only on slow English wickets. The faster the pitch the more likely Thomson and Lillee were to put England to flight. In this new series it could be that only on slower pitches (eg, Brisbane, as it played recently) will Australia be able either to keep a hold on the West Indian batsmen or to make enough runs themselves. This may be too hasty a judgment; we shall see.

In Melbourne, certainly, and probably in Sydney and Adelaide, West Indies will have to work harder for runs, as well as wickets, than they have here. Walker, for example, is twice the bowler in Melbourne that he is in Perth. Australia may be expected, too, to benefit from the lessons of Perth. The Chappells will have had time to digest them. On Saturday Greg, not surprisingly, was caught unawares by the effrontery of Fredericks; in only his second match as Australia's captain he had no set plan to keep the West Indians at bay, as he will have next time. It was as though a forest fire had started and no one knew how to fight it; so it raged and it raged until it burnt itself out, doing the most fearful damage on the way. Accustomed to bowling at English batsmen, who almost to a man are neither hookers nor cutters, Thomson, and Lillee seemed unable, or unwilling, to believe that Fredericks, or anyone else, could hook and cut them with such impunity.

new to him, was no more than new to him was no more than most captains have been through in recent years. Even Illingworth, who was nothing if not defensively astute, had no answer to the ravaging fires of batsmanship which West Indies lit in England in 1973. Then, too, it was on the fastest wicket of the season, in the Test match at Lord's, that the devastation was worst. A few months later, on the slower wickets of the Caribbean, England found a way to contain an identical West Indian side. In Melbourne it could be the same for Australia. As the brothers Chappell and the brothers Marsh played golf together today they must certainly have hoped so. Now one of Australia's leading golfers, Graham Marsh is also a great lover of cricket.

Seen at their best, as they have been here, there is no more exhilarating sight in cricket than a West Indian side. Almost as easily their way of playing can cost them a match, as it may have done in Brisbane. To wish that England played in the same way is to disregard the ethnical implications of it all. Boycott or Ian Chappell could no more bat as Fredericks and Lloyd did than jump over the moon; yet I would rather have the first two to play for my life. By those who saw them both, Fredericks's innings of 169 is said to bear comparison with Gary Sobers's double hundred at Melbourne, playing for the Rest of the World against Australia in 1972; and Bradman says that Sobers's batting that day was the best he ever saw, at any rate in Australia. The nearest I have seen to it by an Englishman out here was by Bob Barber at Sydney in 1962-63, when he made 185; the nearest by an Australian was probably Waters's hundred here in Perth last year, and one or two innings by Harvey. And of these, Fredericks, Lloyd, Sobers, Barber and Harvey or were, all left-handed. Kallicharran, who could b[e] next to cut loose. There doubt that keeping left-ha[nders] quiet presents bowlers and [cap]tains with peculiar problem[s]

From the West Indian today has come the beat [of a] steel band, which they take them on tape. While they batting yesterday all you see in the darkness of dressing room was a r[ow of] smiling teeth. So uninhibit[ed] nature they can get delig[ht] and dangerously carried What memories there are same dressing room 12 [years] ago, with Bernard Thomas, physiotherapist, fighting perately to get 11 Englishme[n] the field; and of Colin C[owdrey] emerging from it to ope[n an] innings only a few days [after arriving from] England. Having just ma[de] same flight to Perth, as man[y] before this present Test m[atch] Cowdrey made it then, I st[ill] that as one of cricket's heroic performances by Co[wdrey].

So far, this time, ther[e has] been less talk of bouncers because over the past thre[e] fewer have been bowled [than a] year ago, but because, [the] West Indians, they have better played. What put th[e] up England has been relis[hed by] the West Indians. As fo[r the] Australians, after all the stuff they unleashed agains[t] ness's side they probabl[y] obliged to keep their silence Roberts and Holding are [making] the ball fly around their

What these two got awa[y with] last night, in the way of bo[uncers,] was at least as persistent a thing Thomson and Lillee ever done, or Hall and C[riffith] did, or Lever and Willis umpires, too, were every acquiescent as Brooks and hache. If it goes on it w[ill be] interesting to see whether [Aus]tralia become unnerved washed became the catchp[hrase] in the way that Englanc Meanwhile we have a se[ries] our hands which promises, all. to live up to its billin[g] which should stand at one apiece by the time the su[n goes] down tomorrow.

Freetown, Sierra Leone, D[ec 15] —Jvel Hyde, of Ghana, wil[l cap]tain and Gambia's Sam Ma[...] will manage the four-nation African cricket team again[st] MCC in two matches in Fre[etown] and Lagos next month.—A[gence] France-Presse.

Boxing

Pegg fills hole for matches with Scots and Danes

Steven Pegg, of the Repton Club, has been named for the heavyweight spot in England's matches against Denmark, in Elsberg on January 4, and Scotland, at the Gloucester Leisure Centre, on January 28. Pegg, 22, fills a spot left vacant when England beat West Germany at the Albert Hall last week.

DENMARK (at Elsberg, Jan 4): Flyweight, P. Dart (Devonport); bantam, D. Smith (Eltham); feather, C. Boza-Edwards (Fitzroy Lodge); light, D. Gwilliam (Warley); light-welter, J. Zeraschi (Fitzroy Lodge); welter, W. English (Hillcrest); light-middle C. Oyediran (Colvestone Club); middle, P. Lynch (Kensington, Liverpool); light-heavy, S. Crosby (New Enterprise); heavy, S. Pegg (Repton).

SCOTLAND (at the Gloucester Leisure Centre, Jan 28): light-flyweight, J. Dawson (Boston, Lincs); fly, C. Magri (Arbour Youth); bantam, N. Philip (Army); feather, P. Cowdell (Warley); light, G. Gilbody (St Helens); light-welter, C. McKenzie (Sir Philip Game); welter, P. Kelly (Navy); light-middle, R. Davies (Birkenhead); middle, D. Odwell (Repton); light-heavy, J. Waldron (Repton); heavy, S. Pegg (Repton).

Tonna criticized for his tactics against Monzon

Paris, Dec 15.—French boxing writers today condemned the challenger Gratien Tonna for his tactics against the World Boxing Association champion, Carlos Monzon, on Saturday, and one labelled the losing Frenchman "a feather-brained actor".

Monzon felled Tonna with a mild straight right in the fifth round of their title fight, and Tonna made no effort to get up from the canvas as the referee counted him out. Tonna then called the result a scandal and claimed that Monzon had hit him with a foul blow on the back of the neck, but the referee denied this.

The conservative daily Le Figaro, alluding to Monzon's career as a film star, commented today, "Carlos Monzon is the one on the cinema screens but the actor is Gratien Tonna".

The mass-circulation daily France-Soir commented: "There is one word for Tonna—fe[ather-]brained".

The respected sports L'Equipe went further. [...] world championship shoul[d be] wiped from our records be[cause] it produced the most humi[liating] sight in boxing history—Ton[na on] all fours begging for a [...] title, prostrate before a r[eferee] in an effort to get his opp[onent] disqualified".

Monzon, meanwhile, now a[waits] the winner of next year's [sched]uled contest between the [World] Boxing Council champion, R[odrigo] Valdes, of Colombia, and French champion, Max C[...] Then he will retire.

The boxing promoter, R[odolfo] Sabbatini, said Valdes and [...] would meet late in Januar[y or] early in February.

Monzon, 34 next year, wa[nts to] end his career by beating V[aldes] and firmly establishing himse[lf as] the world's top middleweigh[t].

Athletics

Foster, 43, wins marathon by 2½ minutes

Honolulu, Dec 15.—Jack Foster, 43, won the Honolulu marathon yesterday, easily beating men many years younger. Foster, a clerk from Rotoira, New Zealand, covered the 26-mile, 385-yard course in 2hr 17min and 24sec. It was a record for the race here, but well behind Foster's own best: 2:11:0.

Last year's winner, Jeff Galloway, of the United States, finished second, in 2:19:59, followed by a Canadian, Tom Howard, 2:21:46, and Dan Moynihan, of Honolulu, in 2:22:0. More than 700 ran in the marathon which started before dawn.

Before the race, Dr Eric Banister and Dr Jack Scaff, of Honolulu, conducted physiological tests on Foster, using a treadmill. "He's a phenomenon", Dr Banister said, "his oxygen-transport system is so good, athletes half his age would give their eyeteeth for it".

Foster, who led the race for much of the way, said he would have done better, but wasn't used to the heat and the humidity. Jacqueline Hansen, of California, who in October set the woman's world best for a marathon in Oregon, was the first woman to finish her in 2:49:34.—AP.

Brentford loss

Brentford football club lost £11,409 in the year ending May 31, 1975.

Tennis

SYDNEY: New South Wales Open championships: Men's singles: First round: J. Kukal (Czechoslovakia) beat R. [illegible], 6—3, 7—6; [illegible] (Australia) beat [illegible] (Italy), 7—5, 5—7, 6—4; P. McNamara beat [illegible], 7—6, 6—1; [illegible] beat [illegible], 7—5, 6—1. Women's singles: First round: [illegible] beat C. Zeeman, 6—0, 6—1; H. Eisterlehner (W Germany) beat K. Hallam, 6—2, 6—3, 7—5; C. McCann beat C. Pearson (US), 6—1, 6—1; C. Griffiths beat R. Daub (US), 6—3, 6—3; B. Simon (France) beat C. Healey, 6—3, 4—6, 6—2.

The Times Special Reports.
All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter.

Skiing

Miss Epple can interpret the course successfully

From John Hennessy
Cortina d'Ampezzo, Dec 15

Today's action in the World Cup skiing competition, a men's slalom, was held at Vipiteno, a dolomite or two away, but a fair balance between the sexes drew most of the camp followers to this village which was put on the international map in 1956 when it staged the Winter Olympics.

Tomorrow we have a women's downhill here followed by a slalom Wednesday, a meeting of special significance because the combined results attract points for the World Cup. It is then a competition for the all-rounders, for the genuine ski racers rather than those who lack the little extra courage for the downhill or the supreme technical command for the shorter events.

For all that, the course for tomorrow's downhill is technically demanding and therefore perhaps not suited to the Swiss experts. Those who have shone in training today include Brigitte Totschnigg, of Austria, the winner at Aprica last week; Cindy Nelson, America's main hope for an Olympic medal at Innsbrück; and Irene Epple, of West Germany, a charming young interpreter on my behalf a year ago when I interviewed the German champion, Rosi Mittermaier, but now a leading racer in her own right.

Like her compatriot she achieves good results in all three events now, so that either German could pick up the bonus of 25 points for leading the combined here. Two British women are entered, Valentina Iliffe and Fiona Easdale.

Meanwhile, according to a trusty messenger from Vipiteno, the men's slalom today was won by Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, with Hans Hinterseer, of Austria, second, and Piero Gros, of Italy, third. The 25 world cup points Stenmark thereby acquired compared with Gros's 15, have enabled the Swede to take the lead in the World Cup from the Italian [by a] single point.

Gustavo Thoeni, the holder of the World Cup, [was] only 9th and therefore pic[ked up] only two points. Perhaps t[his is] not surprising because the [course] was icy, a situation that St[enmark] enjoys and Thoeni dislikes [...] the impression that Th[oeni is] more concerned with the [Olympic] titles this year and will ma[ke] his main aim, combined v[...] overall world title that is within the framework Olympics.

World Cup medals, offer[ed every] year are of a baser metal [than the] glittering Olympic ado[rnments] available only at the end [of each] Olympiad. There was an moment or two for Stenma[rk when] it was thought that he m[ight have] missed a gate and the A[ustrians] lodged a protest. But it w[as over]ruled and Hinterseer ha[d to be] content with second place points.

Fascinating as all this a penance to be denied the gripping events in [...] Even when news doe[s come] through there is nobody the slightest interest in with whom I can share reminded of the Minist[er of a] strict puritanical sect w[ho went] out early one Sunday for a little golf before [anyone] was awake and had the achieving a hole in one[. It] dawned upon him that [he would] never be able to confide [the] news to anyone. The 19[th, after] all, is the best hole on course.

MEN'S SLALOM: 1, I. [Stenmark] (Sweden), 57.43sec and 5[...] 111.65sec; 2, H. Hinterseer [(Austria),] 57.96, 54.29 = 112.25; 3, [P. Gros] (Italy), 58.15, 54.86 = 113[...] Radici (Italy), 58.74, 54.89 [...] 5, O. Soerli (Norway) [...] 54.75 = 114.17; 6, B. [...] (Italy), 58.57, 55.86 = 114[...]

WORLD CUP STANDI[NGS] (to date): 1, Stenmark (Swe[den) ...] points; 2, P. Gros (Italy) [...] G. Thoeni (Italy), 31; 4, [...] (Switzerland), 28; 5, [...] (Switzerland), 26; 6, K. [...] gory, Canada), 25.

Snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
AUSTRIA					
Alpbach	10	50	Fair	—	-8
Badgastein	—	90	Good	—	-5
Brand	40	60	Good	—	-4
Galtür	30	50	Good	—	-4
Gargellen	40	70	Good	—	-4
Hinterglemm	20	120	Good	—	-7
Igls	20	20	Poor	—	-3
Ischgl	20	40	Good	—	-7
Kitzbühel	—	70	Good	—	-8
Kühtai	20	50	Good	—	-4
Lech	80	80	Good	—	-13
Lermoos	30	60	Good	—	-10
Lienz	30	90	Good	—	-5
Mayrhofen	15	50	Good	—	-3
Mittersill	10	60	Good	—	-7
Obergurgl	30	120	Good	—	-7
Obertauern	80	120	Good	—	-8
Saalbach	15	50	Good	—	-5
St Anton	15	120	Good	—	-6
Schruns	0	60	Fair	—	-0
Seefeld	30	70	Good	—	-6
Serfaus	20	40	Good	—	-5
Wildschönau	—	75	Good	—	-15
Zürs	60	80	Good	—	-12

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste
FRANCE			
Alpe d'Huez	60	130	Good
Chamonix	10	90	Good
Courchevel	10	80	Good
Flaine	50	130	Hard
La Clusaz	50	120	Hard
Les Gets	15	80	Good
St Gervais	[illegible]	80	Hard
Val d'Isere	60	100	Hard
ITALY			
Abetone	50	60	Good
Bardonecchia	30	70	Good
Cervinia	[illegible]	200	Good
Claviere	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good
Courmayeur	55	70	Good
Cortina	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good
Corvara	80	130	Good
Courmayeur	10	150	Good
Macugnaga	60	140	Good
Madesimo	90	160	Good
Madonna di C	110	200	Good
San Martino	[illegible]	150	Good
Sauze d'Oulx	[illegible]	80	Good
Selva	[illegible]	130	Good
Sestriere	70	90	Good

هكذا من الأصل

ard to slo Indies

hepstow provide a worthy finale

ael Phillips
Correspondent

is only one more top class re Christmas—the Finale hurdle at Chepstow on

It takes quite a nerve such a good race so soon e holiday when so much ing on. But Chepstow's clerk of the course, John got away with it last year race attracted an excel- headed by Philominsky, nearly won the *Daily* Triumph Hurdle at Chel- arer in the season and se, who has proved him- one of the best in the

y's race also promises ery bit as enlightening three leading lights in e, Havanus, Sweet Joe olino, all scheduled to more about them to- hen there will have been to study the list of four day acceptors which will be published later today.

Meanwhile there is some pretty humdrum stuff to contend with at Folkestone and Warwick this afternoon. But that is only to be expected at this time of the year. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect is the fact that the going at Folkestone will be good and that it will be firm at Warwick...a rare occurrence surely in the middle of December.

The Whitelaw Gold Cup Handicap Steeplechase is the most valuable race at Folkestone today. This trophy may well be won by the grey Barmer, who has already won and been placed at Sandown Park this season. The Esher course is one thing; Folkestone, with respect, is another and I suspect that Robin Blakeney's grey mare, who got her colour from her sire, Sir Winston Churchill's old favourite Colonist II, will be in her element there. Barmer has already won at Folkestone and her form this season is much better than that of her six rivals.

Arisaig, a former inmate of Henry Cecil's Newmarket stables, for whom he won nine races on the flat, is now trained by John Haine, and should manage to win the first division of the Hawkinge Novices' Hurdle. Haine paid 3,000 guineas for Arisaig at Ascot in August and I know that the six-year-old pleased him when he won his first and only race under National Hunt rules at Windsor three months later.

In contrast Station Master, who has won both his races at Newbury and Fontwell, is unlikely to find life at all easy in the second division, now that he has been drawn against Viverona, Friston Mist and Talkuns Melody.

Roman Pastures, who finished fourth in the Mackeson Gold Cup at Cheltenham in November, is my selection to win the Stonelelgh Handicap Steeplechase at Warwick. With hindsight, his last race, at Wincanton, where he started favourite on the strength of his performance at Cheltenham, probably came too soon after the Mackeson and he was certainly not at his best that day. Shifting Gold is chosen to win the Shirley Maiden Steeplechase. Even though he was beaten 15 lengths by Roaring Wind at Huntingdon earlier this month, he was not disgraced that day. Roaring Wind has now won his last four races and Shifting Gold is unlikely to meet an opponent of his calibre this time.

In London last night the annual Bolinger awards to the champion professional and amateur jockey under National Hunt Rules were presented to Tommy Stack and Ridley Lamb, respectively.

STATE OF GOING (official): Folkestone: Good. Warwick: Steeplechase, firm; hurdles, good to firm. Catterick Bridge (tomorrow): Firm. Towcester (tomorrow): Good to firm.

dashing Duke proves himself a man of steel

el Seely
ke of Albuquerque, the Spanish amateur rider, d his fifty-seventh birth- ning two of his own victory at Leicester yes- afternoon. He won the ndicap Steeplechase on a gelding who gave him ne ride when finishing Red Rum in the 1974 tional.

rst leg of the Duke's ad been provided by who showed a fine turn to outpace Nougat and Taffy from the final the Ivy Handicap Hurdle. Heracles could be given on the best of his form, er, Fred Winter, consid- Nereo was sure to be in the race. But the Duke nine-year-old had other

g into the straight Lauso nworth and Eyecatcher sputing the lead several clear of Nereo. At the fence from home Eye- hit the front but Nereo ding up fast and obviously full of running. Staying on strongly under the Duke's driving, Nereo mastered Eyecatcher halfway up the run-in and drew away to win by two and a half lengths.

The Duke has ridden six times in the Grand National and plans to make his seventh appearance on Nereo next spring if the race takes place. The Spanish grandee must be made of stern stuff. Eighteen months ago he broke his leg when riding in the French Grand National at Auteuil and had to have a metal plate inserted in his thigh.

No sooner had he recovered from that accident than he broke his right leg again in a fall on the flat in Seville. On that occasion he had another plate fitted secured by eight stainless steel screws. It was originally intended to have the plate removed this autumn, so Winter was told that there was no need to get Nereo ready. But then the lure of the saddle proved too strong; the operation was postponed and Nereo was given a hurried preparation for yesterday's race. So the Duke rode with a plate in his leg yesterday and despite it, showed a skill and dash that must have been the envy of men many years his junior.

Winter was asked when the Duke was likely to give up riding. He said: "Never if he goes on riding winners like this." He was then asked if he would like to see yesterday's jockey ride other horses for the yard. "How could I ever get him. He's the best in the game", Winter replied jokingly.

The Lambourn trainer completed a treble when Simon's Pet took advantage of the withdrawal of Town Ship to run out a decisive winner of the Mistletoe Hurdle Race. Incidentally, Winter reiterated how delighted he had been with Bula's gallant failure to concede so much weight to What a Buck and Royal Relief at Ascot on Saturday.

"Only an Arkle could have given 31 lb to an improving young horse like What a Buck", Winter said. He also agrees with Michael Phillips's point that Bula is not entitled to be favourite for the King George VI Steeplechase. Nowadays Captain Christy runs more good races than bad ones and top class steeplechaser though Bula is, the balance of his form cannot be considered the equal of Captain Christy's.

Winter was not the only ex-Ryan Price jockey to shine yesterday. Josh Gifford saddled two winners when Weather Chart and Royal Exchange easily won their divisions of the Christmas Tree Novices' Steeplechase. Weather Chart is owned by Mrs S. N. J. Embiricos who, as Miss Valda Rogerson, won the Newmarket Town Plate on Vultes besides being placed in the race on several occasions. Royal Exchange belongs to Gifford's wife Anthea and is an Irish-bred gelding who was bought from Tony Grantham three years ago.

The feature of both these successes was their bold and accurate jumping. Gifford says that the successful jockey yesterday, Bob Champion, is as skilled at schooling as he is at riding a race. Gifford also has the able assistance at Findon of those two good, young riders, Michael Stanley and Gerry Enright. Both Gifford and Champion have now had 25 successes this season.

wick programme

ARWICK STEEPLECHASE (£427 : 2½m)

20p Sister Margaret (Mrs D. Smalley), S. Cole, 8-11-9 .. R. Kington
-0p Flying Fred (G. Beech), G. Balding, 6-11-8 ... A. Roberts 5
-3P Tabby (F. Quibell), ... Bower, 9-10-5 ... P. McCarthy 5
037 Yellow Stone (L. Perks), G. Vergette, 5-10-5 .... P. J. Kelly 5
0- Shipbado (N. Nutting), F. Walwyn, 6-10-5 .... K. Mooney 5
0-2 Mighty Mogul (W. Stephenson), Stephenson, 8-10-5 C. Macauley 5
low Stone, 3-1 Mighty Mogul, 6-1 Sister Margaret, Flying Fred, 7-1 Shipbado.

LEY STEEPLECHASE (Div I : £340 : 2m)

0f Broadstar (D. Brown), Mrs L. Dingwall, 9-11-9 .. R. Hanshaw 7
0P0 Cavalina (Mrs G. Hartop), J. Webber, 8-11-9 .. A. Webber
-pu Dumette (Mrs V. Welch), J. Welch, 7-11-9 .... Mr G. Beeson
23 Eastern American (F. Wingett), H. Morris, 5-11-9 .. P. Morris
4-0 Joint Venture (W. Strange), J. Old, 6-11-9 ..... C. Candy
-0p- Klipspringer (D. Cripps), C. Miller, 7-11-9 .... D. Cartwright
1-0f Parleyvoodo (R. Sturrock), B. Cambidge, 6-11-9 Mr G. Jones
-02 Shifting Gold (R. Russell), K. Bailey, 6-11-9 .. D. Sunderland
-04 Solarium (Mrs M. Whitaker), G. Balding, 5-11-9 .... J. Fox
Shifting Gold, 5-1 Eastern American, 9-2 Klipspringer, 6-1 Solarium. Venture, 12-1 Dumette. 16-1 others.

TON HURDLE (Handicap : £679 : 2m)

012 Grey Dove (CD) (G. Price), Price, 6-11-4 .... Mr C. Price 7
400 Cornmarket (D) (A. Murdoch), F. Walwyn, 5-11-1 K. Mooney 7
140 Lyon del Mar (D) (N. Tudor), R. Akehurst, 6-11-0 .. J. King
333 Miss Poker Face (D) (Lord Norths), A. Turnell, 5-10-12 .. S. C. Knight 5
-00 Space Project (R. Brown), Brown, 5-10-10 ..... R. Byett
000 Doctor Domaro (D) (M. Marsh), Marsh, 8-10-10 .. M. C. Gifford
443 Vale Royale (D) (C. Hacking), Hacking, 8-10-9 L. Griffiths 5
-0p High Jump (D) (R. Clarke), M. Tate, 4-10-5 .... R. R. Evans
04p P. C.'s Record (D) (Mrs M. Bradshaw), S. Underhill, 7-10-0 G. Holmes
Operatic (E. Warren), D. Quartermaine, 6-10-0 ..... Mr M. Caswell 7
0- Dry Ice (D. Verney), O. O'Neill, 7-10-0 ..... Mr M. Caswell 7
-02- Skybound (C. Sidewick), K. Bailey, 5-10-0 .... Mr S. Micklead 3
0-2 Pav Aureole (D) (Mrs L. Dingwall), Mrs Dingwall, 5-10-0 ..... P. Leandro 7
4-4u Deletion (V. Lay), Lay, 5-10-0 ..... Mr G. Jones
010 Stanway Girl (S. Priest), H. Nicholson, 5-10-0 .. K. Whyte 7
Poker Face, 7-2 Space Project, 4-1 Grey Dove, 5-1 Lyon del Mar. market, 8-1 Vale Royale, 14-1 others.

2.0 SHIRLEY STEEPLECHASE (Div II : £340 : 2m)

1 222- *Alpenstock (H. Thomson), Mrs E. Gaze, 8-11-0 .... —
2 34-0 Another Kind (Mrs A. Morris), H. Morris, 7-11-9 .. P. Morris
3 0004p4- Sand Of Hope (A. Clarke), J. Edmunds, 7-11-9 G. Edmunds 5
9 P Mahaban (D. Persse), J. Welch, 7-11-9 ..... P. Connor 3
10 0-0p Hudder Hill (L. Potter), Potter, 5-11-9 ..... P. Collinge 3
11 p00-000 Joint Affair (J. Bower), Bower, 6-11-9 ..... P. McCarthy 7
12 030304- Jolly Sailor (T. Shrimpton), F. Cundell, 6-11-9 .... B. R. Davies
13 pf0p-3- Sharp Syke (G. Spyre), M. James, 7-11-9 ..... R. Crank
16 000 Solvitiates (P. Raddaway), Mrs R. Pitman, 5-11-9 Mr B. Smart 7
11-10 Jolly Sailor, 5-2 Sharp Syke, 4-1 Band of Hope, 10-1 Solvitiates, Another Kind. 14-1 others.

2.30 STONELEIGH STEEPLECHASE (Handicap : £628 : 3m)

5 1-04140 Roman Pastures (D) (C. Possert), C. Davies, 6-10-12 .. K. B. White
6 p0-p441 Noble Hero (CD) (M. Marsh), Marsh, 8-10-7 .... Mr C. Gifford
14 1p-0033 Moon Trip (D) (A. Connell), Connell, 7-10-0 .. J. Francome
17 1p040-0 Thomond (D) (Miss T. Pearson), Miss Pearson, 10-10-0 Mr A. J. Wilson
21 p20 Doctor Zhivago (D) (Mrs R. Wiseman), Mrs Wiseman, 11-10-0 C. Candy
23 220412 Going to Roost (G. Whitaman-Haywood), M. Tate, 7-10-0 J. Barlow 7
2-1 Roman Pastures, 11-4 Noble Hero, 5-1 Going to Roost, Moon Trip, 8-1 Thomond, 10-1 Doctor Zhivago.

3.0 HAMPTON HURDLE (Handicap : 4-y-o novices : £340 : 2m)

4 200000- The Grandson (H. Alper), J. Gibson, 10-13 ..... M. Gibson
5 4444-00 Dantora (Mrs M. Wrighton), D. Ringer, 10-13 ..... W. Smith
6 1/0p- Pen Mill (Mrs C. Greenslade), G. Balding, 10-12 .. R. C. Bailey
8 004- Quick Result (R. Pitman), Mrs R. Pitman, 10-13 .. A. Bradford
10 0002-p0 El Rondo (R. Ashman), M. Tate, 10-5 ..... R. Evans
11 0-14030 Marsh Hey (J. Wilding), Wilding, 10-7 ..... Mr R. Wilding 7
2-1 Pen Mill, 3-1 El Rondo, 4-1 Quick Result, 11-2 Marsh Hey, 10-1 The Grandson, 12-1 Dantora.

Warwick selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.30 Mighty Mogul. 1.0 SHIFTING GOLD is specially recommended. 1.30 Lyon del Mar. 2.0 Jolly Sailor. 2.30 Roman Pastures. 3.0 Quick Result.

kestone programme

AWKINGE HURDLE (Div I : £340 : 2½m)

1 Arisaig (M. Wixey), J. Haine, 6-11-9 ..... J. Haine
-340 Bent Pelham (A. Wood), S. Mellor, 5-11-4 ..... J. Glover
00-0 Rathlek (D. Greig), Greig, 5-11-4 ..... S. Brogan
00-0 Sir Waldo (M. Taylor), A. Moore, 5-11-4 ..... P. Kelleway
020 Tudor Mystery (Mrs A. Beeson), E. Beeson, 5-11-4 J. Jenkins
2-00 Verona Bay (Miss N. Carroll), R. Armytage, 5-11-4 H. Evans
1234 Walberswick (Miss D. Squires), D. Nicholson, 5-11-4 J. Suthern
30-0 Briggs (Mrs J. Donegan), L. Pattullo, 4-11-0 ..... E. Linley
300- Lets Pretend (K. Kleinwort), Kleinwort, 4-11-0 ... M. Stanley 5
Lewesdon Lady (A. Bowell), R. Blakeney, 4-11-0 .... E. Linley
0- Rusty Musket (Mrs D. Miller), H. Miller, 4-11-0 .... P. Mitchell 5
1-04 Thaddeus (T. Bryant), Miss A. Sinclair, 4-11-0 .. R. Rowell
0-00 Welsh Count (M. Bryant), S. Woodman, 4-11-0 C. Coldsworth
Arisaig, 100-30 Walberswick, 4-1 Thaddeus, 9-1 Bent Pelham, 10-1 Rusty, 14-1 Welsh Count. 20-1 others.

LLINDGE HURDLE (£342 : 2m 200yd)

1-31 Hit Parade (C) (M. Pipe), Pipe, 8-11-13 ..... L. Lungo
4000 I Cry (C. Craig), R. Blakeney, 6-11-12 ..... E. Linley
3003 My Brake (A. Neaves), Neaves, 5-11-12 ..... S. Eccles 7
P441 Prosen (J. O'Donoghue), O'Donoghue, 6-11-12 .. P. Butler 7
-pe0 Rossela (Mrs L. Browning), D. Browning, 7-11-12 M. Stanley 5
0023 The Stuartstan (S. Powell), S. Mellor, 5-11-12 ..... J. Glover
0-0f Uncle Sal (A. Edgar), ... Crawford, 7-11-12 ..... F. Offord 7
p0-f Roman Way (T. Crawford), R. Hannon, 5-11-5 ..... — G. Gracey 7
3000 Big Boss (Mrs E. Cosser), G. Ripley, 4-11-2 ..... D. Ranger 7
400 Deep Mystery (B. Marler), T. M. Jones, 5-10-0 .... T. Bridge 5
Lady Lear (T. Fox), S. Supple, 5-10-0 ..... D. Sunderland
Penhill Point (C. Hill), G. Balding, 5-10-0 .... R. Atkins
0 Zipperdi-Doo Dah (F. Turner), C. Benstead, 5-10-0 .. R. Atkins
Parade, 4-1 Prosen, 5-1 The Stuartstan, 13-2 Roman Way, 7-1 Doo Dah, 9-1 Deep Mystery, 10-1 Lady Lear, 20-1 others.

HITELAW GOLD CUP (Handicap Steeplechase : £829 : 3m)

1-3p Black Tudor (D) F. Chapman), G. Kindersley, 7-12-3 W. Shoemark
-4p0 Royal Measure (D) (P. White), A. Moore, 10-11-5 .. R. Atkins
-123 Barmer (C) (D) (R. Dean), R. Blakeney, 7-11-2 .... R. Linley
-020 Arctic Amoroso (Mrs E. Oliver), J. Gifford, 8-11-0 R. Champion
-2pf Ebony Rock (D) (J. Rogerson), T. M. Jones, 6-10-12 G. Thorner
-444 Real Sharp (D) (Col I. Gore-Langton), Miss A. Sinclair, 9-10-7 R. Rowell
4400 Utah (C. Barker), A. Moore, 11-10-0 ..... C. Read
armer, 3-1 Arctic Amoroso, 5-1 Real Sharp, 13-2 Black Tudor, 7-1 Royal . 10-1 Ebony Rock. Utah.

LDINGTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap : £621 : 2m 100yd)

-043 Saint Accord (C) (J. Hawkins), Mrs A. Oughton, 9-11-8 G. Thorner
-234 Parkgate Inn (CD) (A. Wood), S. Mellor, 7-11-2 .. S. Jobra
4240 French Society (C) (Mrs J. Butler), B. Wise, 6-11-2 R. Rowell
-733 The Sundance Kid (D) (G. Strawbridge), Thomson Jones, 8-11-1 Watkinson
000-0 Clarencaux (D) (Ld Dulverton), R. Armytage, 6-10-13 H. Evans 5
3a-2 Clever Prince (P. Eisinger), M. Haynes, 9-10-6 .... D. Jeffries 7
0121 Wild Pirate (Mrs A. Beeson), E. Beeson, 8-10-5 .. J. Jenkins

2.0 (2.3) HOLLY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap : £510 : 3m)

Nougat, b g, by Tapioca II— Natasha II (M. Vickers), 5-11-0 R. Champion (12-1) 2
Fighting Taffy, ch g, by Welsh Rake —First Combat (P. Upton), 8-11-12 .. M. C. Gifford (7-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 II-fav Tommy Joe, Single Spur, 15-2 Crewelea, 7-1 Zellaman (v), 16-1 Tamastic, 12-1 Melford Grove, 15-2 Glendale, 16-1 Bel Canto, 20-1 Conceeded. Grass Hand, Master Scorchin, Transform, 33-1 Davidson, Clydebank (ref), Rona's Son, Tanella, 19 ran.
TOTE: Win, £2.24; places, 49p, 22p, 34p. 24p. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 20, 5l.

1.30 (1.32) CHRISTMAS TREE STEEPLECHASE (Div I: novices: £408: 2½m)
Weather Chart, b g, by Ralacheck— Vulchive (Mrs B. Embiricos), 8-11-9 R. Champion (evens fav) 1
The Walrus, b g, by Arctic Slave— Buck O'Rose (Capt J. Macdonald-Buchanan), 7-11-0 D. Cartwright (16-1) 2
Chanter Mark, ch m, by River Chanter—Quiery Mark (D. Dorling), 8-10-9 Mr D. Dorling (25-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 2-1 Wily Talko (f), 12-1 Mural Crown (4th), 16-1 Centaur Romany, 33-1 Sherman, Slatt Bridge VI (u), Vertu's Imp, 9 ran.
TOTE: Win, 28p; places, 12p, 33p, 35p; dual forecast, 68p. J. Gifford, at Findon. 10l, 1¼l.

2.0 (2.3) HOLLY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap : £510 : 3m)
Nougat, b g, by Alfidir—Palma (Duke of Albuquerque), 9-10-5 Duke of Albuquerque (16-1) 1
Eyecatcher, b g, by Double Jay— Overslight (J. Bosley), 9-10-5 K. Maguire (16-1 fav) 2
Yarnworth, b g, by Arctic Slave— Foxcleugh II (J. Wesley), 6-10-5 J. King (9-4) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 Tempair, 14-1 Lauso Lad (4th), 5 ran.
TOTE: Win, 99p; forecast, £1.95. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 2-1 4l.
2.30 (2.30) CHRISTMAS TREE STEEPLECHASE (Div II: Novices: £408: 2½m)
Royal Exchange, b g, by Evoga Money—Homeful Queen (Mrs J. Gifford), 7-11-9 R. Champion (1-2 fav) 1
Flower Child, br m, by Brother— Grey Orchid (J. Burridge), 8-11-2 G. McNally (20-1) 2
Moneyman, gr g, by Yrrah Jr— Cherimchee (R. Page), 6-11-3 S. Holland (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 6-1 Agrostis (f), 13-2 Admirals Light (b), 33-1 Nobacot (ref), 6 ran.
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 11p, 26p; forecast, 25.45. J. Gifford, at Findon. Distance, 15l.

3.0 (3.2) MISTLETOE HURDLE (4-y-o: £668: 2m)
Simons Pet, br g, by Frigid Aire— Miltonia (Mrs O. Jackson) 11-5 Burns (4-5 fav) 1
Listercombe, ch c, by Aggressor— Vanita (Ld Vestey), 11-4 J. Suthern (12-1) 2
Back Me Off, b g, by Royal Buck— Edna's Choice (Mrs B. Curley), 10-7 ..... Ben Hannon (9-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-1 Aztec Star, 12-1 Superman, Wrongly Drawn, 33-1 Helenway, 50-1 Cantara (4th), Dawn of Grace (p), Kerry B, Per Pound, Prince Willem, 12 ran.
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 12p, 19p, 25p. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 4l, 7l. Town Ship did not run.
TOTE DOUBLE: Weather Chart, Royal Exchange, £1.50. TREBLE: Heracles, Nereo, Simons Pet, £27.00.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Cambridge United.

ester results

12.30: CHRISTMAS PUDDING DLE (Handicap: £340: 2m)
, ch g, by Ron—Indian m (Mrs P. Cole), 4-9-7
-S D. J. Nicholson (20-1) 1
ll, ch g, by Royal Avenue— Lady (Mrs G. Davis), 8-11-7 Saltington (7-2 fav) 2
ck, b g, by Space Ring— Sisters (J. Southorn), 1 ..... P. Russell (12-1) 3
RAN: 7-1 Mild Cheese, 15-2 ge (p), 8-1 Kings Fling, 4-1 Bob, Summer Serenade, 10-1 on (p), Unavailable, 12-1 ons, 14-1 Frigid Frolic, Pink o, 16-1 Frogman Charlie, 20-1 ego, Arctic Blizzard, Divine ather Owen, Vente, Dardanelle. 21 ran.
: Win, £7.61; places, £2.36, 9p, 27p. J. Harris, at Melton y. 3l. Sally's Choice did

.2) IVY HURDLE (Handicap: 3m)
s, b h, by Alfidir—La Maja (Duke of Albuquerque), 5 ke of Albuquerque (12-1) 1
Nougat, b g, by Tapioca II— Natasha II (M. Vickers), 5-11-0 R. Champion (12-1) 2
Fighting Taffy, ch g, by Welsh Rake —First Combat (P. Upton), 8-11-12 .. M. C. Gifford (7-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 II-fav Tommy Joe, Zellaman (v), 16-1 Tamastic, 12-1 Melford Grove, 15-2 Glendale, 16-1 Bel Canto, 20-1 Conceeded. Grass Hand, Master Scorchin, Transform, 33-1 Davidson, Clydebank (ref), Rona's Son, Tanella, 19 ran.
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kshire cricket

kshire's plan to acquire a ground for first-class cricket Sheffield area as a replace- for Bramhall Lane, was out- on Monday by the county secretary, Joe Lister, who "Any reasonable proposal be welcomed."

v date for Kotey

yo, Dec 15.—David Kotey ia), the World Boxing Coun- eatherweight champion, will d his title against the Jap- challenger, Shige Fukuyama, saka on February 29. The st, originally scheduled for nber 7, was postponed at the st of the champion.—Reuter.

ms joins Walsall

lsall yesterday signed Aston 's reserve striker. Alum s, for an undisclosed fee. s joined Villa from Liverpool 65,000 in 1972.

Bloodstock sales

Danum sold for stud duty

Danum, the final lot of the first period of Ascot's two-day December sales, was knocked down to bloodstock agent Joan Forbes for 1,650 guineas. This six-year-old son of Whistling Wind, the winner of eight races from five furlongs to a mile for Barry Hills5s stable, will take up stallion duty in New Zealand.

A strongly made individual, Danum is out of Pretty Woman, who has also bred that useful two-year-old winner Lord Henham.

Alan Jarvis, a Middleham trainer, gave 1,050 guineas for a yearling filly by My Swallow, named Aperitiff. She was bought for a new patron of the stable and should be racing next season.

Her dam, Mrs Hauksbee, scored at Goodwood and was second in the Lingfield Park Oaks trial. She traces to Lionel Holliday's great foundation mare, Lost Soul.

Shifting Gold, who won the Upton Handicap Hurdle at Warwick 12 months ago, goes for another victory at this year's meeting, but this time the six-year-old runs in the Shirley Maiden Steeplechase (Division I).

The former Flat winner Arisaig, sold out of Henry Cecil's stable for 3,000 guineas at the Ascot August sales, will be strongly fancied to follow up an impressive winning debut at Windsor for the trainer-jockey Johnny Haine in the Hawkinge Novices' Hurde (Division I) at Folkestone today.

Show jumping

PARIS: 1. F. Mathy (Belgium), Gai Luron, clear round, 34.9sec; 2. G. Mancinelli (Italy), Lydicus, clear round, 37.0; 3. R. D'Inzeo (Italy), Talky, four faults, 35.0; 4. E. Macken (Ireland), Boomerang, four faults, 35.5; 5. M. Roguet (France), Belle de Mars, four faults, 36.7; 6. H. Parot (France), Tic, eight faults, 39.4; 8. M. Pyrah, Seven Valleys, four faults, 43.6;

Yachting

French ketch takes line honours

Cape Town, Dec 15.—The French ketch, Penduick VI, skippered by France's single-handed transatlantic winner, Eric Tabarly, won the line and corrected time honours in both classes for the first leg of the Atlantic Triangle yacht race, it was announced here today.

British Steel, the only British entry among the 14 starters for this 14,858-mile race—Saint Malo-Cape Town-Rio de Janeiro-Portsmouth—arrived yesterday in a 60-knot wind and pounding seas to be fifth over the line. Captained by 28-year-old Robert James, British Steel had her fore top mast staysail blown out and mizzen jib broken as she manoeuvred to take up port moorings.

Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

Christmas presence

In one of our first Christmases together, my husband and I exchanged parcels of quite unusually similar shape (a dart) and weight. Opened, mine to him proved to be Victorian silver grape scissors, his to me an elegant pair of household pliers. I tell this tale not to illustrate—though naturally it does illustrate—that there are no preconceived ideas about sex roles in our household, but because we were both delighted with what we got. He was distressed by the half-bald bunches of grapes on the table, I was fed up with trying to do the running repairs on a four-storey house with my nail tweezers.

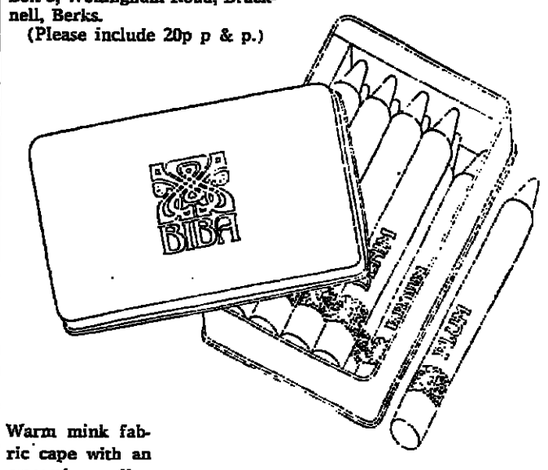
What, in fact, our presents proved was that the only successful gift is one that you want to receive, and it is in this way that donors should consider their purchases, not by giving things they would like themselves—or, even more deplorable, things they think the other person *ought* to like or need. So do not give an untidy friend some drab household neatening device. All you will give her is a guilt complex. Do not give people with conspicuously bad taste delicate prints of Japanese landscapes. Give them something jolly and vulgar. Never try to change them. If you love them, and if you do not now is the time to find out that style is going to keep you apart anyway.

Christmas is a time which tests many virtuous characteristics to their utmost, and reared as we are to think that it is better to give than to receive, we tend to overlook the fact that it is much harder to receive, especially something you do not want, like soft centred chocolates or proposals of marriage. Other proposals, of course, offer no hardship, since they can be refused if necessary with a gratifying exhibition of affronted modesty, shock and amazement which ought to cloak the pleasurable blush of flattery. But proposals of marriage, well, one has to try to be kind.

When in doubt, opt for something small from an absolutely blue chip name—with the name prominently on it—rather than something elaborate and clever, specially made by your private little man somewhere, unexchangeable, un-jumble saleable, an embarrassment on Christmas Day and by Boxing Day a living reminder of your incompatibility.

Not only do the French and the Italians show off their fashion with much more panache than we do here, they show off their food, too. Even quite small delicatessen shops arrange each day a new window of irresistible glazed concoctions which manage to be tempting even when constructed from items I know I do not really like. English people who patronise the Madeleine quarter of Paris for their hotels daily run the gamut of one of the most calorie-unconscious windows in the world, Fauchon. You can admire the leisured art of making nuts look like sweets, sweets look like nuts, cakes look like castles and in fact everything look like something, which, come to think of it, is probably very much what the fashion designers are trying to do, too. Now Fauchon will be at Simpson (Piccadilly) Ltd, on the lower ground floor.

Below: Ten giant, wax-based Biba Crayons packed in a shiny black tin box. Available in a wide selection of soft shades, which are perfect for eye and lip colouring. A tin of crayons costs £3.50, from most large London stores, main branches of Dorothy Perkins, Frasers of Aberdeen, Henderson of Liverpool and Binns of Hull. Also mail order from Biba Ltd, PO Box 5, Wokingham Road, Bracknell, Berks.
(Please include 20p p & p.)



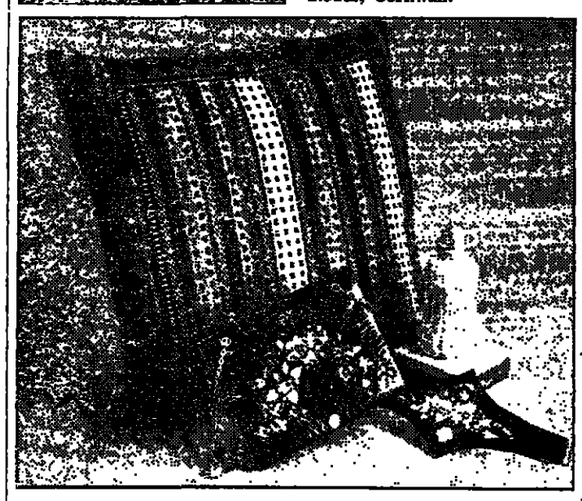
Above: Fun finger gloves for children, knitted with plain hands and individually coloured fingers. Made in a variety of colour combinations including: rust hands with white, blue, brown and green fingers; purple hands with white, blue pink and lilac fingers. Available from most Woolworth stores, in sizes 5, 6, 7, at 59p.

Below: Knitted cushion cover designed by Ulla Heathcoat and chosen from a variety of patterns and colours. Made in one size only, 20 sq in approx, at £14, from Crocodile, 58 Beauchamp Place, London, SW3; 60 Fulham Road, SW6; 176 Kensington High Street, W8; and Harvey Smith in Binns of Hull. Uncovered cushions are available from John Lewis, Oxford Street, London, W1, and the size we used cost £2.25 approx.

Ice crystal talcum powder by Estee Lauder, in her famous Youth Dew fragrance. The elegant glass sugar shaker, with silvery top, stands approx 8in high, and is easy to refill with powder, or ideal to use in the home when empty. It is available from all large stores that stock Estee Lauder products, at £7.50.

Very pretty evening bag and belt in black patent calf leather, embossed with sequinned and beaded flowers and leaves. Designed by Mrs Jean Stoneham, of The Cornish Cobbler, and available to order from her in many various colours of leather and suede. Bag style 50E8 at £14. Belt (with adjustable waist) style 50S13, at £7.75. From The Cornish Cobbler, Devichoys Parc, Perran-Ar-Worthal, near Truro, Cornwall, tel: Devoran 862 003. Or contact Mrs Black, tel: Cupar (Fife) 3131; also The Inn Shop, Lygon Arms, Broadway, Worcestershire, and Laura Gibson, Couture Fashion Fabrics, Falmouth, Cornwall.

Warm mink fabric cape with an attractive collar, in a pretty sapphire pastel colour. It comes in one size only, style A816/5, at £12.99, from larger branches of Woolworth. Wear it on its own or over another long cape, like a coachman's collar. Liberty print turban with a plaited band, from Liberty's hat department. Available in a variety of prints at £9.50.



Above: An attractive basket of products by Molton Brown. We illustrate a basket containing sponges, a flannel, seaweed setting lotion, soap, and Rosemary herbal shampoo, at £3.50. Sizes and products vary, and prices go from £3.50 to £8. From Molton Brown, 58 South Molton Street, London, W1.

Right: Each key has attached to it a disc engraved with the value of a gift. These range from £10 to £250 and come in pretty leather pochette bags. Keys, which are available all the year round, may be obtained and exchanged for merchandise at Wardrobe's shops in Chiltern Street, London W1. No 17 stocks high fashion wear and accessories, and No 42 has beautiful underwear and beach clothes.

Below: Handsome gift or travelling pack for men by Yves Saint Laurent. Contains eau de toilette, after shave and spray deodorant, £3.50. The separate tube is an excellent moisturizing cream for sensitive skins, £3.50. Silk and cashmere initialled scarf, £26, chosen from a selection starting at £6. One of the newest designs in sunglasses for the season to come, at £15 approximately.
All Yves Saint Laurent products from 73 New Bond Street, W1; 84 and 35 Brompton Road, SW1; 113 New Bond Street, W1; and the Inter-Continental Hotel, Hyde Park Corner, W1.
Agate bead cufflinks, joined by a band of 9ct gold, available from Jones, 52 Beauchamp Place, London, SW3. Colours of agate available are purple, green, blue and white, at £40 a pair.

Photographs by Trevor Sutton
Illustrations by Norman Mossenger

98.1p	6.57	98.6	+0.6	Income (3)	92.0	136.8	6.05	Prop Acc Units	97.9	100.4	..
111.1	6.57	137.6	-1.0	Do Accum (3)	122.0	136.8	6.05	Prop Dist Units	100.1	..	..
113.8	7.50	95.6	-0.4	Capital (3)	69.6	105.3	4.36	Prop Acc Units	100.4	..	..
117.1	7.50	123.9	-0.1	Do Accum (3)	117.4	123.6	4.36	Prop Dist Units	80.9	100.2	..

Warrants quoted (4th) valued monthly.

Oil: How Norway is coming to grips with the benefits and problems of wealth

While Britain has been making rather heavy weather of the development and exploitation of her new found wealth in the North Sea, the other major beneficiary of this gift from nature has been quietly preparing herself for the inevitable changes that being a major oil producer will bring about. With characteristic Nordic efficiency, Norway is systematically attempting to assess and then regulate the social and economic impact of her oil and gas finds. By 1977 these will already amount to 10 times her own domestic needs.

With its vast coastline and continental shelf, its comparatively tiny population of four million and estimated oil reserves of 2,000 million metric tons, a government report that stated that "the petroleum finds have put Norway in a very favourable position" could almost be mistaken for cynical understatement. But Norway's politicians and planners are indeed treading with care. As the head of the planning department in the Ministry of Finance recently put it, "although we recognize that when the politicians smell the oil money they won't be able to keep the lid on, there is none the less a political will and a tendency to discuss the social and ecological issues concerned".

In the social sphere the problem tends to be seen very much in terms of Norway's perennial concern for regionalism. While talking of "the nightmare of Norway's topography" the politicians are concerned that both the oil industry's creation of 15,000 to 20,000 more jobs and the foreseen collapse of many less competitive other enterprises, should not bring about the destruction of whole rural communities. Though it is recognized that the oil boom can only accentuate the impulse away from the traditional rural pursuits associated primarily with the fishing industry it is hoped that an element of regional decentralization can be introduced into the distribution of jobs and wealth. For Norway's ruling Labour Party this has the added attraction that their conservative and liberal opponents tend to be stronger in the cities, and any regional policy that can minimize the shift to the urban areas will benefit them.

Labour politicians also fear the political effect of the increasing wealth of Norway's populace. As one Cabinet member complained: "As the electorate get richer they become more and more conservative—more concerned with lower taxation and acquiring consumer goods, less receptive to the idea of any social expenditure by the state. This inevitably rebounds on us." Election results for the past decade bear out his observation.

But more crucial for Norway's regional management is going to be the inflationary effect of the introduction of vast new buying power into the economy at a time when the country already enjoys full employment. Against the background of an estimated doubling in public and private consumption between 1977 and 1980 and a total increase in domestic demand from the use of oil revenues estimated in excess of £545m by 1980, a senior Finance Ministry civil servant explained: "These increases must create a huge pressure on the labour market, but when we look at the social effect of *Gastarbeiter* and immigrant labour generally in the rest of Europe we do not see that as a solution. So, many of us are in a dilemma; we want an open society but we don't want the import of human capital".

Already Norway has closed her doors to any new immigration, but the oil wealth will be spent and if the home market cannot produce goods competitively (as in many cases they will not) foreign manufacturers will undoubtedly step in. There is an acceptance in government circles that not only will many producers go to the wall, affecting about one-fifth of the labour force by 1980, but that Norwegian non-oil exports will also suffer a dramatic decline. To be a rich country means high labour costs by definition, a situation which is compounded by the strength of the Norwegian kroner against other currencies. All of which tends to weaken the competitive power of Norwegian exports.

But it is not intended that all the oil wealth should be spent at home. On the one hand it is recognized that Norway will join with the Arab oil producers as the latest entrepreneurs in the international money and credit market and will become a significant exporter of capital. On the other Norway's nigh traditional concern for third world poverty will find itself better funded than ever before.

Norway is in fact committed to giving 1 per cent of her gross national product to development aid by 1978, and oil revenues will add about £27m to the original estimates of this for that year. Her philosophy is succinctly summarized in a parliamentary report dealing with the petroleum industry. "Norway's standard of living is one of the highest in the world. The oil discoveries will raise our standard of living still further. We carry a special responsibility in a world with all the marks of fundamental economic and social inequality. We should therefore let the most needy countries have a share in our increased revenue." This will primarily take the form of investment in developing countries' trade and industry, as well as the more traditional aid programmes.

Another area of Norwegian concern is in the field of resource management. It is taken for granted that the North Sea's oil deposits are finite and the Government is therefore carefully monitoring the exploitation of oil and natural gas by the phased granting of concessions and other more direct controls on the companies. It is hoped thereby, as in Britain, to allow oil revenue to continue into the next century and also to spread the social effects of the increase in wealth over a longer period. At the same time it is envisaged that, in the long term, the role of the state in the extraction process will be widened; the multi-national companies will be reduced to the capacity solely of consultants, entrepreneurs and possibly minority shareholding parties with the Norwegian State Oil Company in the development of Norway's continental shelf deposits.

Norway's politicians laugh secretly to themselves at the British handling of relations with the multi-nationals. They point out that the terms and conditions that Mr Benn has recently, and with much ado, been seeking to impose on the companies have long been accepted as the foundation for operation in Norwegian waters. But even more curious to them is that the British seem to find it necessary to create another state oil company in the form of the British National Oil Company when we already have the British Petroleum giant, which with only the minimum of effort could be transformed to fit the bill.

John Blair

Peter Walker on local government reform

Why most criticism of the ne councils is undeserved

Mr Walker: No regrets.

When, within a few weeks of becoming the minister responsible for local government in 1970, I announced to a Conservative conference that it was my intention to go ahead quickly with local government reform. I opened my speech with the words: "Only once in each century will there be a politician fool enough to embark upon the reform of local government. I have decided to volunteer myself for that sacrifice this century. For there is no way in which one can reform local government that will be praised and applauded. For all those against change will be vocal, and after local government is reformed all future mishaps for at least a decade to come will be blamed upon the reform of local government."

I cannot, therefore, complain of the large volume of criticism that has followed the reform of local government. I can, however, complain at its inaccuracies, and I do defend not just the decision to reform local government for the first time in almost a hundred years, but I also have no regrets as to the principle I applied to that reform.

To listen to the current critics one would consider that the great mass of the people and those interested in local government and politicians had defended the existing system. It is worth recalling the events that led to local government reform.

On February 3, 1970, the then Labour Government published its White Paper stating that it was absurd to continue with 124 county councils and more than 1,000 district councils and that it was the intention to follow the principles of the Maud Report on Local Government Reform, which advocated the abolition of all existing local authorities and their replacement with 58 large unitary authorities and three metropolitan areas—Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

After consultation, the Labour Government announced that it was its intention to have 51 unitary authoritaries and five metropolitan areas. Mr Crosland, speaking in the House on February 18, 1970, said: "When we held our consultation on the Commission's Report there was no serious argument for keeping things as they are."

For those, therefore, who complain about the remoteness of local government following reform, they should recall that the two-tier system that I brought in is far less remote from people than that advocated by the Labour Government, and certainly far less remote than that advocated by the Liberal Party, whose proposals concentrated on the major power being with provincial governments covering even greater areas than Labour's unitary authorities.

When I published my proposals nearly the entire press, apart from *The Guardian*, approved of the reform and the only major critics were *The Economist* and the *Evening Standard* together with the Labour Party, all of whom desired more drastic reform by creating the large, all-powerful unitary county councils. As to the Conservative Parliamentary Party, now containing many critics of local government reform, one can read through the debates on the White Paper and the Bill itself to find virtually no criticism of principle and only criticisms demanding more power being given to the bottom tier than I was willing to give in my proposals. No Liberal spoke in the White Paper debate and no vote was taken against the White Paper.

What now of the criticism that rates have soared as a result of the massive bureaucracies that have been created by local government reform? The facts are available. We are able to compare the difference in administrative staffs of local government in England and Wales in the year before reform as opposed to the year after it. We can also compare the changes in the size of the administrative staff with the Greater London area where, of course, reform had taken place many years previously and therefore any increases in staff were no longer caused as a direct result of reform.

In the year, administrative staff in London increased by 9.9 per cent while administrative staff in the rest of England and Wales—which had been reorganized—increased by less than half the figure, 47 per cent. As far as salaries were concerned, for there is frequent criticism that there was a massive inflation of local government salaries, administrative salaries in London went up by 19.1 per cent and in the reorganized areas by only 14.3 per cent. This increase was certainly not unduly out of line with the increase that took place in salaries throughout the country during the 12 months April 1, 1973-April 1, 1974.

In the case of many senior grades, there were substantial reductions resulting from local government reform. The number of chief executives declined from 1,307 to 421, and the number of senior officers, whose salaries come under the Joint Negotiating Committee, was reduced from 3,129 to 1,913, giving a reduction in salary costs in the grade of officer of more than £5m.

It is, of course, fair to argue that the reform I advocated should have resulted in a reduction of staff and there should have been no increase at all. And that certainly was what I expected. If one takes account of extra tasks placed upon local government during the year in question, there was in practice a reduction in staff of 4.6 per cent, a reduction from 298,644 to 289,415. In fact, 27,800 extra posts were required to meet additional duties placed upon local government by central government during that year, and by factors such as the replacement of outside contracting for professional services.

Another important factor in bringing about local government reform and creating larger districts and larger counties is that there is a natural tendency for services to improve to the level of the best of the previous authorities.

Apart from salaries and swollen bureaucracies, the next most popular charge is that of extravagant new buildings for the new authorities which is well illustrated in my own county of Hereford and Worcester, where there has been an immense outcry over the building of a new county headquarters, the need for which has been entirely blamed on local government reform. The reality is that Worcestershire County Council had decided to have a new county headquarters before reform. Herefordshire County Council had decided to have a new county headquarters before reform. As a result of reform we have one new county headquarters instead of two. But there is no doubt that for decades to come the blame for the entire cost of that new headquarters will be pl local government ref

Certainly the new headquarters is related to the increa that local governme has brought to this county. For if one t alent boundaries and responsibilities one the total of administ prior to reorganiz 3,212 and a year late so in fact there h decrease.

I believe that the staff could have be more than the real of 4.6 per cent that Doubtless there have of individual salaries out of line with what sary.

My successor, Mr Rippon, who was a ponsible during the the transition took sensibly had arrang whole salary stru wages paid to be rea Pay Board. Alas, th Labour Government the Pay Board and pu ment in its place to the payment of lo ment salaries. Even safeguard, however, seen that salaries in istrative areas of lo ment rose broadly i those of the country

As far as the say hoped for as a rest government reform cerned, this is, of matter for those coun are now in power ir authorities. Alas, u disappointments of lo ment reform is that a people did not come government in spite soual attempts to industry, trade union fessional bodies to more of their able a take on these impor

In many local auth councillors elected w to those before reform was an understanda ance to remove off had known over the tainly if these off been removed it w been right to have tri generously, and this been a temporary co government reform.

One must hope, that our elected coun carefully examine all areas of staff saving to it that early retire other methods are u duce the existing staff administrative part government. If, how is to succeed, govern partments must stop out circulars urgi authorities to carry functions and more d

I believe also there a careful examinatio manner in which m proposals on plan operating, for I sense too, there is an u duplication of sta could be reduced. It it is vital to have s inery close to the lo at the same time avoi sary duplication tha ably taking place no

One thing I am co is that while local g reform has been b the inflation of the years, had local gove form not taken p would today be a w of small authorities tion of collapse, capable of meeting t of this period. I am that as the years go range of local gover vices will be of a h ity as a result of lo ment reform, but d at least 20 years w tinue with the posit credit for the benefi will go to the cou the difficulties of l ment will be accred government reform.

The author is Cons for Worcester

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Bernard Levin

A lone voice that should stop us all in our tracks

Even the human race has something to be said for it. This feeling has been growing on me lately, whenever I contemplate the existence and behaviour of Mr Daniel Moynihan, American Ambassador to the United Nations. There has been a good deal of unease and hostility, in the United States and elsewhere, at Mr Moynihan's habit of going about stating some ancient truths, accompanied by a selection of modern ones, in forthright language, and since even this newspaper last week had some tempered editorial criticism of him to offer, I think it proper today to say that I have no criticism of him, tempered or otherwise, and to add that he seems to me as wise, far-seeing, realistic, honourable and appealing as any statesman the world has seen for a very long time indeed, and considerably more so than any contemporary political figure.

In this world, it is not enough to be right, or even to be both right and good. One of the greatest problems liberalism faces is its desperate shortage of adherents who recognize the brutal reality of an illiberal world, and who know that it is not possible to preserve freedom and everything that goes with it unless the defenders are as hard, single-minded and, when it becomes necessary, ruthless as our enemies.

This is a bitter truth to swallow, but swallowed it must be for the good of our health. It would be hard to think of a more attractive and inspiring contender for the American Presidency in modern times than Adlai Stevenson; but I have always been certain that one of the reasons for his failure was the American people's undeceivable nose for the ultimate political weakness in a man, their X-ray vision that can always tell those from whom the final inch of political steel is missing. John Kennedy had that steel and won; the final degradation of the Stevensonian tradition was seen in 1972, and whatever the crimes of President Nixon, for which he has been condemned to the oblivion of history, nothing can wipe out from his record the fact that he saved America, and the world, from George McGovern.

The question that has to be asked of liberals—and in view of Mr Moynihan's background and tough upbringing he will, I am sure, recognize it—is: do they, or do they not, know where to put the razor-blades in the potatoes?

It is on that antithesis that our future may rest: the debate, that is, between those who think that freedom should do nothing to provoke the hostility of its enemies, and those who think that freedom is everywhere on the retreat precisely because this attitude has been dominant for so long, and who are determined to carry the war of ideas to the enemy. I have no doubt at all on which side of that argument I stand, and it is the same side as Mr Moynihan, which is also the same side as such American heroes of mine as Professors Sidney Hook and Arnold Beichman, and such British freedom-fighters as Mr Reginald Prentice and my beloved WW.

Mr Moynihan's position at the United Nations is an easily understood one. In the first place, he sees free countries, especially his own, denounced and traduced by some of the vilest tyrannies the world has ever known. In the second place, he sees countries run by gangs of corrupt and rapacious beggars denouncing and traducing those nations, again especially his own, which have poured gigantic cataracts of aid into the beggars' open mouths, and thus enabled them to survive. In the third place, he sees racialist oppressors denouncing as racialist oppressors peoples who are not so much as one-thousandth part as racialist or oppressive as the denouncers. He sees these things, which all his predecessors in his present post have seen, and he does not like them, which could also be said of those who have previously borne his responsibilities. But unlike them, he goes further; he does not confine himself to defending freedom when it is attacked, which has hitherto usually been the American way, and still less does he adopt the abject posture of the present British Government, which refuses even to defend freedom, preferring instead to denounce those who do. (Whence the mewling of Mr Ivor Richard, the other day, on the subject of Mr Moynihan himself.) Mr Moynihan takes the offensive, and when he sees a spade his first thought is to call it a spade, and his second thought, on which he usually acts, is to call it a bloody shovel.

Daniel Moynihan

Noticing that President Amin is a racist murderer, Mr Moynihan does not say that, by and large and taking one thing with another, President Amin's policies do sometimes seem to suggest that he is apt to pay too little attention to ensuring that Ugandan standards of justice and race-relations are as high as could be wished; instead, he says that President Amin is a racist murderer, and he deliberately compounds his offence by drawing attention to the fact that President Amin is the elected titular head of the Organization of African Unity.

Then again, Mr Moynihan has observed that the democratic countries, which have no empires or subject peoples, are constantly denounced by the representatives of the Soviet Empire, and by the various tyrannies of the Third World, for being insufficiently unselfish towards the latter, although they have, in the past quarter of a century or so, contributed many millions of millions of dollars to their upkeep. He does not, as a McGovern or a Harold Wilson would, cringe in acceptance of this impudent rebuke: pausing only to remark on the "superior capacity of Marxism to induce guilt", he continues: It is said that if a Communist regime were to take over the Sahara there would in time be a shortage of sand. But we can be fairly confident that to the very end there would be those in the West convinced that the sand had gone to build swimming pools for the rich—in the West.

Further, Mr Moynihan sees that, at the United Nations, resolutions are often introduced denouncing regimes such as those of South Africa and Chile for imprisoning hundreds of people on the ground of their beliefs. Mr Moynihan does not dissent from such denunciations; on the contrary, he supports them vigorously. But he does not fail to make plain that they come ill from countries such as those of the Soviet Empire, which between them have hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of political prisoners.

The consistency, vigour and truth of Mr Moynihan's speeches (I am sorry he allowed himself to be persuaded to remove from his speech on the infamous Zionist resolution a statement to the effect that it marked the takeover of the asylum by the lunatics) deserve the highest praise, and I am not concerned with those who disapprove of what he says. But the criticism of him that is often heard even from those who agree with his sentiments takes the form of a wish that he would not express them. This is the don't-make-trouble philosophy, and I am as sick of it as Mr Moynihan is, and possibly sicker.

For too long now we have gone on accepting all the lies our enemies tell, apologizing for things we have not done, to those who have done far worse than the worst they falsely accuse us of paying to support those whose principal activity is siding with our enemies, undermining the efforts of those who not only see the danger we are in but wish to do something about it. And where have we got with the policy of speaking in whispers and obligingly turning our bums to any boot that wants to kick us? Is freedom stronger now than it was a decade ago, or weaker? Has our influence among the tyrannies of Black Africa or the Arab world or Asia increased, or diminished? Do the aggressors and imperialists fear us more, or less? Are our own peoples increasingly tenacious of their hold on their democratic beliefs, or has that hold slackened?

In the answers to those questions lies the value of Mr Daniel Moynihan. The policy we have pursued is not only wrong, it is foolish, too; it not only betrays what we stand for, it helps ensure that what we stand for will lose in the battle against those who wish to destroy it. Mr Moynihan has begun to sound the trumpet to end the long retreat; it sounds sweet in my ears, and I suspect that it may awaken echoes long silent in the minds of many who have almost ceased to hope. Long may he continue to blow.

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"Spread some happiness this Christmas"

Reginald Bosanquet

"If you and I could look in at some 'homes' this Christmas we would find a big contrast to the happiness we expect in our own: Old people completely alone, and feeling all the lonelier 'because it's Christmas'. Some with no home at all, or without food in countries ravaged by hunger or disaster.

Our Christmas becomes a *real* Christmas by sharing some happiness with those who need it most.

Here are some of the things you can send the lonely and the hungry."

Just £5—the cost of a modest turkey—will give a few ounces of rice every day for a year to supplement the diet of one desperately hungry old man or woman.
£25 is a real help towards another Day Centre for lonely old people at home.
£2 sends a Christmas meal for 10 old people who never get enough to eat.
£100 provides a simple house overseas in your name.
£150 perpetuates the memory of someone dear to you on the Founders' Plaque of a Day Centre.

If you believe in a happy New Year, please send hope to someone who has none of your blessings.

Your donation is desperately needed to help old people. So please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to: **Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T5, FREEPOST 37, LONDON W1E 6UZ (no stamp is needed).**

The Times Diary

Dinner with an unused woman

Michael Leapman gets one woman's view of the Australian election result:

Germaine Greer brought her harp to the party but nobody asked her to play. She arrived in Australia during the election campaign and offered to help Labour, but they said there was nothing she could usefully do. Miss Greer is the very archetype of the progressive Australian who was so delighted by the Labour win of 1972. But, in Australia as elsewhere, she has a controversial reputation, and the Labour people probably believed she would alienate more people than she would attract to the cause.

She was, as you would expect, horribly disappointed by the landslide to the Liberals, so I invited her for dinner to cheer her up. She is far taller than I, with a bubbly hair style akin to the Afro. She wore a blue denim dress and multi-coloured bracelets with which she fiddled through much of the meal.

She was suffering, she said, from pharyngitis, a disease of which I had not heard. It is apparently like laryngitis but in a different place. Luckily, this did not stop the fluent flow of her talk.

She ordered oysters, and told me that the best way to eat them was to go to an oyster island off the coast, take your clothes off, sit on a rock, open up the oysters with a knife and eat them straight away. This sounded to me as though it might involve the risk of a nasty injury, but she said the chief effect was to stimulate the sex drive, so it was a good idea to take someone nice with you. I noted the information and, having thus covered sex, steered the conversation towards politics.

Her main worry about the election result is that it signifies, as she sees it, a retreat by Australians into their old insularity and self-satisfaction. Gough Whitlam's win in 1972 was hailed by her and others as a sign that the country would develop closer links with the real world outside.

The trouble with Australia, she believes, is that its people are willing to put up with the second-rate, which permeates every aspect of life. That is why she and the most talented Australians are driven to live abroad. "Sensory deprivation" is how she describes it.

Australian houses, she believes, are suitable for little but quarrelling in—certainly not for living. In the hotel lobby she pointed to some shoddy finishing and grubby door panes—in the most expensive hotel in the Australian capital. An Australian book she was reading mis-spelt an author's name four times. Trivial points, but annoying.

Yet Australia has the highest literacy rate in the world, she pointed out. "Everyone can read and write but they can't read and write very much."

By now we were on the pudding—a Pavlova, an Australian dessert which Miss Greer insisted I try. It is a meringue with cream, passion fruit, ice cream and strawberries. Unsubtle but fine for those with a sweet tooth.

We went to the lobby for a brandy, pursued by a drunken Danish journalist who kept saying: "I have to prepare a commentary by 2 am." As we sat down, Miss Greer pointed out that my tie, a purple one, exactly matched the chair coverings.

"I must warn you", I declared, "that anything you say about my tie will be taken down and used in the Diary." (The phenomenon is becoming . . . well, phenomenal. I have had these ties for a year or more, but suddenly, since Esther Rantzen started the trend, every desirable woman I meet is unable to resist commenting on the one I happen to be wearing.)

I drove Miss Greer to where she is staying, the house of Sue Ryan, who on Saturday was elected Labour senator for the Canberra district. She told me about her rather sombre victory party, at which feminists and Labour supporters had been going round muttering that, following the electoral defeat, they would be glad to go "back on the streets where they belong".

Mrs Ryan and Miss Greer doubted whether they would, and so do I. They are more likely, like Miss Greer, to take to the jumbo jets and get out.

Today's sign was photographed by P. I. Walker of Bradford in that city and bears out what they say about the younger generation being pampered.

One of the most colourful figures in the campaign has been Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, the right-wing Premier of Queensland. A Canadian reporter went to Brisbane to interview him and was greeted by the Premier thus: "Ah, Canada. Isn't that the place with a Commie for a Prime Minister?"

Fence sitting

Australians were doing other things apart from voting last weekend. Christmas is coming and in the rural areas people are thinking of giving their children ponies as presents. I went to Braidwood, some 50 miles east of Canberra, to see the wide open spaces and attend the horse sale at the stockyard.

Braidwood is an old goldmining town which looks much as it must have done in the middle of the last century. Indeed, it was where Tony Richardson shot his film of Ned Kelly, starring Mick Jagger. And although the large majority of Australians live in the coastal cities, the country towns still embody much of what people still like to regard as the true Australian way of life.

John Adams, the auctioneer, said that about 40 horses were up for sale—a lower number than usual because of two competing sales nearby. There were hardly more than 50 people, many wearing wide-brimmed cowboy hats. A woman carried a poster advertising the local rodeo next month.

The first things to be sold were saddles and bridles, draped over the fence at the side of a dusty pen. Adams stood in the middle of the pen while the bidders formed a cluster round him.

Like a tobacco auctioneer, Adams's patter was barely decipherable. Occasionally, familiar phrases broke through, like "You've got to be joking", as somebody put in a particularly derisory bid.

Most buyers shouted their bid. None of your discreet nods as at Christie's.

When the gear had been sold, everyone climbed up to sit on the fence. I apologized to the woman in a wide stetson next to me for the inelegant way in which I took my seat, explaining that there was not much opportunity for fence-sitting in Gray's Inn Road, except metaphorically.

I engaged her in talk about politics and she said: "Most of the people here would vote Country Party, seeing as they're country people."

Owners or their children rode their horses round the ring while bidding progressed. Most were small ponies but a few were work horses. Cattle farmers whose land is hilly still use horses to round up their animals, though on flatter land motor bikes are now used for the job.

The average price was about £150, and people complained this was low by recent standards. They blamed it on the economic climate. No doubt things will improve once Malcolm Fraser turns on the lights.

Tamara Fraser, wife Prime Minister, has of glamour in he "I loathe being i eye", she said, " the washing up. It you've just got to

Strine

People like me blessed with a w ledge of Australian of the election ca to follow. One coc used was "bludge been variously trai as idlers, work simply the unen one native said h originally mea keepers.

The Liberal-Co tion used it as a against people wh claimed, living a free ease on benefits.

I am grateful Whitlam, wife o leader, for intro "nongs", which The Australian said, were not suc be fooled by Hmm.

I have also whingers, who And for a long mystified by a sounded like was used as a g abuse. Inquiry although it ratchet, it was differently.

Robin Young's s publishers will week, but Marc on operation on will be out of act

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TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE POLISH EXPERIMENT

It is almost exactly five years since rioting workers brought down the tired and discredited régime of Mr Gomulka in Poland. The events of those days were significant beyond the frontiers of Poland. They showed that even a communist government can be brought down by determined strikers provided it is sufficiently rotten and provided the Russians do not step in to prop it up. More significantly still, it provided a rare example of a communist leadership admitting that a strike by workers in a socialist state can be attributed to something other than counter-revolutionaries or western provocateurs and that the grievances it reflects may be worthy of attention.

The decision to take this line was hotly disputed and was watched with misgivings by other régimes in eastern Europe which feared that the Polish example could spread. It has meant that Mr Gierek, who took over the leadership at the time, has had to pay far more attention to public opinion than if the strikes had been suppressed by pure force and the workers granted no redress. His first five years are therefore particularly interesting as an example of an east European leader operating under a direct and openly expressed threat that there would be more trouble from below if he did not make the system considerably more responsive to the people.

The record sheds some light on what can and cannot be done in an East European country. As last week's party congress proudly proclaimed, the Polish people are now very considerably better off than they were five years ago. Wages have risen sharply while prices have risen by only about 2·3 per cent a year. The peasants have had a new deal, with the abolition of compulsory purchases and the extension of social security to the rural population. More than a million new homes have been built, and an increasing number are becoming the personal property of the inhabitants. An enormous administrative reform has helped to shake up the obstructive areas of the bureaucracy. Younger and more efficient men have been promoted into responsible positions. More cars and consumer goods have been made available, and travel to the west has become much easier.

But now some of the bills are beginning to come in. Fear of increasing food prices has brought inflationary pressures which are curbed with difficulty. Savings have approximately doubled and there have been shortages of food, especially meat. Very cautiously Mr Gierek started last week to prepare the public for higher prices. The other main problem is not entirely Mr Gierek's fault. Inflation and recession in the West have upset many of the initial calculations, and the Russians have not helped by deciding to push their oil prices up a sliding scale to the world level. Poland's enormous purchases of western investment goods are therefore not paying off in the way that was hoped, and one result is that meat needed for home consumption has been thrown into the export battle.

Politically Mr Gierek still has plenty of problems. At home he cannot afford to back down from the promises he gave when he took over, although they now cost much more than he expected. At the same time he must placate the Soviet Union and his eastern neighbours who tend to look askance at some of his internal reforms and at the way in which Poland's western trade has now shot up to half her total foreign trade. Mr Gierek has had full formal support from Mr Brezhnev but has always been slightly suspect because of the long time he spent in the West and the fact that he was not trained in Moscow.

For this reason, among others, he has not permitted much intellectual liberalization or even the degree of managerial reform for which some of his supporters hoped. Nor has he been able to disregard *his opponents within* the apparatus, who are still strong enough to demand their due of appointments. Constraints are therefore plentiful. Within them, however, Mr Gierek has achieved more than other post-war *governments* in Poland and more than some of his eastern neighbours.

ENEMIES WITHIN THE RAILWAYS

The campaign against rail cuts, backed by the railway unions with mass lobbying at Westminster today, will receive widespread support because people do not want to lose their railways. It is however a thoroughly misleading one because it poses a simple choice between more subsidy or less railway. There is a third choice: a more efficient railway giving an improved and still quite comprehensive service at lower cost to the taxpayer and user.

An enormous gap has opened up between the way services, including those of British Rail, are run and the way they could be run. Somehow it must be bridged. In Norfolk a community bus is providing a village service at a cost of £1,500 a year compared with over £15,000 a year by a conventional bus. Even if the volunteer drivers were paid and no fares charged, the community bus, offering a flexible and reliable service, would still cost only a third of the conventional bus. Yet even the conventional bus service is far cheaper than the railway, with its massive overheads, lack of flexibility, and low productivity.

No one is suggesting the railway should be run by volunteers (though some lines are, very successfully) but it could be run far more efficiently and cheaply than it is. Pryke and Dodgson, of Liverpool University Department of Economics, calculated in their recent book *The Railway Problem* that British Rail, now losing £500m a year, could be viable by 1981 with little reduction in route milage provided appropriate steps were taken to improve management and productivity.

The enemies of the railways are not the ogres so readily conjured up by this campaign: "anti-rail planners at the Department of the Environment", "the Treasury", "the Roads Lobby". They are the enemies within who perpetuate inefficiences and restrictive practices they know are dragging the system down. The railways probably have no external enemies. Ministers and officials certainly do not relish imposing on British Rail a discipline it has failed to impose on itself. As for the public, even those who rarely use the railways have an emotional attachment to them.

No doubt the union campaign will capitalize on this public support; but it is to be hoped that neither the public nor the minister to whom it is directed, Dr John Gilbert, will be misled. For what the campaign really seeks to do is reinforce what Pryke and Dodgson describe as "the present deplorable situation in which it [the railways board] devotes its best efforts to extracting money from the Government, and is prepared, if necessary, to mislead the Civil Service".

As an economist, banker and former Treasury minister, Dr Gilbert is probably better equipped than previous transport ministers to call the railway bluff and insist, as a price of continued support, on the elimination of inefficiencies for which the board and unions have no right to ask the public to pay. But it will take courage, and the support of his colleagues, to do so.

AS SPARINGLY AS POSSIBLE

The House of Commons will today be considering a recommendation from the Committee of Privileges to impose a penalty upon the editor and a contributor to *The Economist* for publishing details of a draft report of the Select Committee on a Wealth Tax. There can be no doubt that the offence was committed and there is relatively little dispute that Parliament must retain some powers to safeguard the privacy of its own committees. From time to time matters of national security are liable to be under discussion and not even the most fervent advocate of open government could maintain that it is in the general public interest to disclose everything said before or in the deliberations of every select committee.

But in acknowledging exceptions one must not forget the general rule itself: that Parliament should exercise its powers only in the last resort and when there is a specific need to do so. The Select Committee on Parliamentary Privilege said as much in its report in 1967: "The House should exercise its penal jurisdiction (a) in any event as sparingly as possible, and (b) only when it is satisfied that to do so is essential in order to provide reasonable protection for the House, its Members or its Officers from such improper obstruction or attempt at or threat of obstruction as is causing, or is likely to cause, substantial interference with the performance of their respective functions."

It is not evident that any of these criteria were satisfied in the present case. The article in *The Economist* did not deter the Select Committee from reporting; nor is there any reason to suppose that the report would have been different if the article had not appeared. Indeed, the report from the Committee of Privileges suggests a certain innocence of the ways of politicians no less than of journalists: "their deliberations in Committee must be conducted in the knowledge that they are and will remain private, and free from outside pressure". The Select Committee on a Wealth Tax might well not recognize that description of their activities. It would not have applied even if *The Economist* had not written a word about them.

The more important the task of a select committee the more likely it is that members will be conscious of outside pressure and that there will be public interest in their progress. That is why not even the Cabinet can conduct their deliberations in the knowledge that they are and will remain private, and free from outside pressure. Whenever the House considers its rights there is always the danger of it confusing its own convenience with the public good. That is what the Committee of Privileges have done. It may have been embarrassing that the details of the wealth tax report were published when they were but that does not mean that this was damaging to the public interest.

It is more probable that the public interest would suffer from the penalty proposed for the editor. Either his banishment from conducting his professional duties in the precincts of the House for six months would be a petty gesture, which would be unworthy of Parliament, or it would mean that *The Economist* would be rather less well *informed for that period*. That would hardly contribute to the public dialogue in which *The Economist* plays a valuable part. It would be wiser to see the incident in broader perspective and let the matter rest.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Treating incurable patients

From Lady Wootton of Abinger

Sir, In his letter published today (December 12), Dr Searle denounces the Incurable Patients Bill, which I am introducing into the House of Lords, in terms which are both misleading and uncompromising.

The Bill proposes that an incurable patient should have the right to receive adequate pain-killing drugs, and to refuse treatment likely only to prolong his sufferings. This Dr Searle stigmatizes as both unnecessary and a "terrible indictment of the medical profession". He reads into it an insinuation that doctors are lacking in compassion, in that they "are reluctant to use" drugs which, he says, can control even severe pain without rendering the patient unconscious; and he asks for my evidence.

As I make no indictment, I have no evidence on that. But I do have evidence that the clause is not unnecessary. If it is true that severe pain is controllable, it is also clear that it is not always controlled. Dr Searle need look no further than the obituary columns of the newspapers to see every day announcements of death "after much suffering" or "after a long and painful illness".

To these I would add a personal experience. Some years ago the two people closest to me successively developed different forms of cancer. Both suffered much pain over long periods. The first underwent one surgical operation and died less than a year later. The other died after twenty months and four operations, of which the last had a solely analgesic objective, which, however, was a disastrous failure.

Over a period of nearly four years these two people were in and out of four hospitals as NHS patients. One also spent some time in two nursing homes and on one occasion in an NHS paybed. As next-of-kin in both cases I had extensive contact with these various institutions and their medical staffs. I saw much compassion, but I learned from this experience that practice varies, and so do ethical attitudes and possibly also knowledge skills and available resources.

On the question of keeping people alive (or bringing them back from death) as "cabbages", Dr Searle ascribes to me the "misconception" that the crucial decisions involved may be made by junior doctors immediately on a patient's arrival at hospital—an idea which has never entered my head. Here it is his turn to produce the evidence.

I fully accept his assurances that, as I have always understood, these decisions are only made by experienced doctors after the fullest and most responsible consideration. Equally do I accept that the definition of incurability is a matter for doctors alone, as likewise must be the definition of death. But the question of whether a cabbage existence should be expensively maintained concerns also the patient involved.

My Bill's proposal that persons who would prefer to be spared such an existence should be able, while of sound mind, to make a binding declaration to that effect implies no distrust of the medical profession. The best doctor in the world cannot read the mind of an unconscious patient. But might not this proposal make some of the decisions which doctors have to face less agonizing, and at the same time offer them some protection in cases where there is a difference of opinion between the doctor and the patient's relatives? That would be my hope.

Yours faithfully,
WOOTTON OF ABINGER,
House of Lords.
December 12.

Manchester City Art Gallery

From Miss Brenda Capstick

Sir, Sir Geoffrey Agnew in his letter (December 13) rightly draws attention to the unhappy situation over the future of Manchester City Art Gallery, highlighting the political and local dilemmas to which important museums and galleries can become subject as a result of concurrent responsibilities for their control being given both to county and district councils under local government reorganization.

The Museums Association has been actively concerned with these problems and specifically with the Manchester situation. Last summer when the compromise suggestion was made to split the City Gallery's collections—incidentally with the best left in the Mosley Street Gallery and the rest "made available" to other districts within the Greater Manchester Council—we offered the services of professional advisers to both authorities. Greater Manchester welcomed our approaches and a useful meeting was held there recently; unfortunately the City did not feel there was any immediate opportunity for professional consultation with outside experts.

We hope, however, that the City will discuss the matter with us in the near future and that a better solution can be reached.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDA CAPSTICK, Secretary,
The Museums Association,
87 Charlotte Street, W1.
December 15.

Mr Benn and the EEC

From Professor Peter T. Landsberg

Sir, You reported (December 13) that the Secretary of State for Energy had delayed an important EEC conference to attend a Labour Party function in Bridgwater where he made a presentation to a local official. This may be quite proper, I just do not know the relevant facts. However, he is also reported as saying that through him the energy policy of the whole Common Market is being held up, and "without opening old wounds, it pleases me no end". Many people will be dismayed by such a remark, and will consider that it disqualifies the Secretary of State from continuing in office. Ministers have resigned for smaller lapses than that.

Yours, etc,
PETER T. LANDSBERG,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
December 13.

Too much legislation

From Mr R. T. Arguile

Sir, Your recent editorials "Running local government" and "A dreadful Queen's Speech" taken with Mr G. Hutchinson's recent articles on the Civil Service and certain published letters on the same matter have a common thread in them which you have touched upon but which possibly needs further emphasis.

It is simply this; we have too much legislation.

The administration of each Act passed by Parliament imposes some burden on the Civil Service, on local government or the police. Some Acts may be of a consolidating nature and therefore the workload they impose may be carried by existing staff, but when a government boasts that it put through 66 Acts in the last session and proposes a similar dosage of legislation this current session, we cannot but create a bigger bureaucracy.

One should not blame entirely the Civil Service and local government service. They have to administer the legislation Parliament passes. We grumble about a swollen civil and local government service, increased taxes and soaring rates.

One possible cure would be less legislation—in fact as you put it in an editorial recently, it would be better if Parliament took a long holiday. Only recently in the BBC television interview Mr Harold Macmillan commented that at one time Parliament closed down from between April and the autumn.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. ARGUILE,
19 Latimer Close,
Little Chalfont,
Buckinghamshire.
December 11.

The Wiener Library

From Dr H. G. Adler

Sir, Our PEN Centre, founded by the International PEN in 1934, notes with great concern that the Wiener Library is to be moved from London to Tel Aviv for lack of funds to keep it operating in this country. During the past 40 years, this library has been built up into the world's foremost collection of documents and literature on Germany and Nazism.

Its contribution to psychological warfare (1939-45) and its value to very many historians and students as well as in the courts of law in this country and on the Continent has been unique. It has been acknowledged as an indispensable help in their work by Alan Bullock, Hugh Trevor Roper, Gerald Reitlinger, Sefton Delmer, Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick and many others. The library is in no way confined to matters of interest to the Jewish community. It is recognized as an educational charity and maintained by voluntary contributions.

Unfortunately, precise figures of its operating costs, of the contributions on which it can rely and of those which have stopped are unobtainable. It is difficult to imagine that it should be impossible to raise the necessary funds to keep the library in London where it belongs.

Yours sincerely,
H. G. ADLER, President,
PEN Centre of German-speaking Writers Abroad,
International PEN,
A World Association of Writers,
47 Wetherby Mansions,
Earls Court Square, SW5.
December 11.

Handling of the Chrysler crisis

From the late Mr Maurice Edelman, Labour MP for Coventry, North-West

Sir, As a Member of Parliament for Coventry for the last 30 years, I write to say how much I deplore the transaction between the British Government and Chrysler Corporation. Of course, the 25,000 jobs have to be saved; of course the separatist tendencies which would have been gravely accentuated if Linwood had been turned into a depressed area had to be frustrated. But the shambles of the present settlement with Chrysler which must be seen within the wider context of Government support for the motor industry, based on improvisations like the Ryder Report, should be studied more closely.

As far as Chrysler is concerned, they bought themselves into the old Rootes firm and finally obtained a dominant holding, both with eagerness and pious undertakings, enshrined in a well-known letter of intent to Mr Benn, the Minister of Technology at the time. This guaranteed that they would not take any action which would disadvantage the British company in favour of other Chrysler subsidiaries.

I believe that this is a legally binding document and I have in recent weeks urged Mr Varley to take the matter to the courts, if necessary, just as the French were prepared to do when we threatened to cancel Concorde. I find it absolutely astonishing that with so many clear advantages, moral, legal and practical, the British Government *should have made such an abject* surrender in face of Mr Riccardo's pistol and committed so large a sum of public money without putting up a fight through the courts, through public opinion, but above all, through its power to create a strategy for the British motor industry.

What is the position today? We have a British Leyland clinging to the hope that a million pounds a day of the taxpayers money will see it through its "troubles". We have a Chrysler in pawn to an American multi-national company with an unaccountable commitment of vast sums of public money where once again there is absolutely nothing to prevent the Chrysler Corporation of America from making their basic models in France or Spain.

Sir, the issue for the motor industry is less of pumping in of public funds than in the creation of a proper strategy where new models capable of capturing world markets will be made in mass production. Let me sum up my view of the situation. The British Government has been taken for a ride by the Chrysler Corporation, not for the first time in the last 10 years. The ministers who made the present agreement may well be regarded as "suckers" in Detroit—except that the money they are giving away is other people's.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE EDELMAN,
House of Commons.
December 13.

The letter was dictated to Mrs Edelman on Saturday evening, and it was the wish of both Mr Edelman and of Mrs Edelman that it should be printed in any eventuality.

Defence cuts

From Mr Frank T. Blackaby

Sir, Lord Chalfont (article, December 8) and Mr Goodhart (letter, December 9), in their condemnation of any further cuts in military expenditure, have succeeded in giving the impression that no person in his right mind could possibly be in favour of them. I would like to put forward some of the arguments for a contrary view.

In any military alliance, it is reasonable that the rich countries should devote a larger proportion of their resources to the common cause than poor countries; that, after all, is simply an extension of the general principle accepted with taxation. Now national income per head in Britain, at purchasing power parities, is about 20 per cent lower than in West Germany, and about 25 per cent lower than in France. Yet the share of British output devoted to military uses is substantially higher than in either of these two countries. This is the more curious, in that the alliance is a defensive alliance against the Soviet Union, and—in so far as there is a threat—both West Germany and France are more immediately threatened than we are.

Opponents of further defence cuts tend to write as if it were Britain's duty, all on its own, to match any increases in Soviet military expenditure. This is a relic from our imperial days. The Soviet Union's military expenditure is predominantly concerned with China and the United States. This explains the drive to increase the range of the Soviet fleet, for example; the Soviet Union in the last decade has decided to challenge the United States virtual monopoly of world oceans. There is indeed a risk that this may lead to a naval arms race between the two superpowers. There is absolutely no reason why we should join in.

Those who demand that we spend vast sums on ever more complex pieces of military apparatus misunderstand the nature of the threat to our freedoms. The risk of an attack from outside is negligible. The risk that our economy will fail so abysmally that some anti-democratic group or party will succeed in obtaining power is not negligible. Through-deck cruisers will not help us then.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK T. BLACKABY,
Flat 2,
11 Hanson Street, W1.
December 9.

Assault on the police

From Mrs P. Russell

Sir, Mr Benedict Birnberg's letter (*The Times*, December 2) contains references to the police and police procedure which I consider unworthy of a prominent member of the legal profession.

Commenting on the James Committee recommendations he suggests that the right to a jury on a charge of assault on the police may reduce the number of trivial prosecutions for this offence. Is he inferring that prosecutions are initiated by the police in the certain knowledge that convictions will be secured in every case on summary trial, whereas with a jury trial there is less possibility of a conviction? What utter rubbish.

As the wife of a serving police officer I know that only those cases of assault on the police which warrant prosecution are taken before a court. In my opinion no case of assaulting a police officer can be labelled "trivial". Having accepted the duty of protecting life and property the police are entitled to expect the prosecution of any person who assaults them in the execution of that duty. Yet it is a fact that numerous cases of assault on the police are overlooked, being accepted by the officers as an occupational hazard.

In his address to the Metropolitan Police Federation on November 6 Sir Robert Mark, the Commissioner, said that nearly 3,000 of his force's 17,000 uniformed officers are assaulted each year, of whom three every two days go sick, some after serious injury. Can it be that Mr Birnberg now expects these policemen to accept these more serious assaults and their injuries as an occupational hazard?

The introduction of jury trials for cases of assaulting the police may however result in the imposition on offenders of more realistic punishments. At present the average sentence imposed by Mr Birnberg's "partial magistracy" is on a par with those imposed for minor traffic offences.

Finally, while lamenting the recommended degrading of the offence of homosexual soliciting, Mr Birnberg again snipes at the police, suggesting "keyhole peeping" and "futile time-wasting harassment". It would appear that Mr Birnberg is advocating less protection for the police and more for the homosexual importuner—what a curious double standard.

Yours faithfully,
P. RUSSELL,
148 Colindale Avenue,
Colindale, NW9.

Invalid tricycles

From Mr Adam Fergusson

Sir, The comments without which Mr Syd Tierney could not allow my article of December 4 to pass underline again the absurdity of the Government's policy in respect of invalid tricycles and the impossible position of those who are forced to support it. What sort of defence is it of the Minister for the Disabled—once so certain in his demands and eloquent in his condemnation of these machines—to say that he has published more about their "safety" than all previous ministers put together, or that in the October debate he "was himself pointing out that the P 70 has more accidents than older models"?

Does it occur to Mr Tierney (letters, December 12) whose bright guess it is that the Model 70 turns over more frequently than its predecessors because of its higher speed that it is therefore, relative to its power, more unstable than they are? Any child who has ridden a pedal tricycle downhill could tell him that the faster you go the tighter you must hang on. The semantic issue is of course a red herring; it remains so that the Model 70 is injuring disabled drivers at a much greater rate than the older models, and at a very much greater rate than converted four-wheeled cars.

Mr Tierney finds it "utterly clear" that I had not read the report of the debate. I must reassure him: not only did I study it in detail (including his own highly misleading contribution about the likely effects on some drivers of withdrawing the tricycle), but I did so in the copy of *Hansard* which Mr Alf Morris himself was good enough to let me have. He can ask him if he likes.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
ADAM FERGUSSON,
9 Addison Crescent, W14.
December 14.

Devolution

From Mr Colin Tennant

Sir, Britain has had considerable experience in recent years in devolving power to its former dependent territories.

One formula which has proved successful in seven Caribbean countries, formerly colonies, is that of the Associated State.

This provides for full internal *self-government with responsibility* for all matters—except defence and foreign affairs; two subjects on which many people in Scotland continue to have reservations.

The Act also provides terms whereby full independence may subsequently be achieved following a general election or referendum. It has the great advantage too, of emphasizing *association rather than separation*.

The legislation and the precedent exists. Why not adopt/adapt it for Scotland?

Yours sincerely,
COLIN TENNANT,
As from: Glen,
Inverleithen,
Peeblesshire.

Ordnance Survey maps

From Dr M. L. Parry

Sir, While your correspondent, Professor J. P. Lewis, may complain that the price of some Ordnance Survey maps has trebled since 1974, he would indeed be staggered by the Ordnance Survey's new charges for aerial photographs. From being £0.37 per photograph print in December their price was raised to £3.00 in April, 1975—an eight-fold increase in a single price revision!

Such photographs were once widely used for resource surveys by universities and polytechnics and for planning by local government. But who can afford them now?

Yours faithfully,
M. L. PARRY,
Department of Geography,
University of Birmingham.

Extradition from Ireland

From Mr Kader Asmal

Sir, In the present emotively charged atmosphere *The Times* has done a grave disservice to Anglo-Irish relations by publishing Mr deMassey's letter (December 12) wherein he accuses the Irish Government of "reluctance" to make "extradition orders in respect of known criminals and thugs". As a lawyer and as someone who is generally critical of the Irish Government, may I explain the facts?

Under the Irish Extradition Act of 1965, anyone who is due to be returned to the United Kingdom to face charges of a criminal nature may challenge the validity of his arrest under the British warrant by invoking the plea that his offence, inter alia, is a "political offence or an offence connected with a political offence". Once this plea is raised, it becomes a matter for judicial determination. Irish judges have not behaved any differently from, say, British judges would have, in the context of the present troubles.

The Irish Government does not bear any responsibility for the decisions of an independent judiciary. Even if the Government wished to change the law relating to the non-extradition of political offenders, they could not have done so because the Irish members—two of whom are distinguished members of the Supreme Court—of the Anglo-Irish Law Enforcement Commission which reported in 1974 found that the extradition of "political offenders" would be contrary to the Irish Constitution. It was because of this constitutional impasse that the Irish Government introduced the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Bill, which is now at the Committee Stage in Dáil Eireann, and which will confer jurisdiction on Irish courts to try offences even if they have been committed outside the State.

The Irish Government, far from "harbouring and comforting" terrorists has invoked the powers of the Offences against the State Acts which are more draconian than anything in Britain to imprison more than 400 members of the IRA. For a poor country, the Government has quadrupled expenditure on security services in five years.

But the law necessarily places constraints on governmental actions in the security field. Mr deMassey has no sympathies for the Irish Government's difficulties. However, he ought to have a greater respect for the facts.

Yours faithfully,
KADER ASMAL,
Senior Lecturer in Law,
School of Law,
38 Trinity College,
Dublin 2.
December 12.

Secrecy in the House

From Sir Edward Playfair

Sir, The recent hammering of *The Economist* prompts a question which has puzzled me for years; and the fact that no one seems to have raised it in this connexion puzzles me even more. Leaving aside evidence (as on military matters) which for security reasons must be taken in private, what reason is there for any of the proceedings of any standing or select committee of either House being conducted behind closed doors?

Yours faithfully,
E. W. PLAYFAIR,
12 The Vale, SW3.
December 13.

Classics graduates

From Mr L. P. Wilkinson

Sir, I was no less surprised than Mr Cawkwell of Oxford at your discouraging headline about openings for classical graduates, quoted from the Secretary of the Oxford University Appointments Committee. In October, 1973, you were good enough to publish my third decennial list, showing the various occupations of those who had graduated at this college in 1962-72 after studying classics for not less than half of their time at Cambridge (mostly for all or two thirds of it). It seems opportune to bring the list up to date by adding those who graduated in 1973-75:

Graduate work in Ancient History (2), in sociology (plus teaching), and in medieval studies; deputy organist of a cathedral; diplomatic service; home Civil Service; Bank of England; solicitor; Law Society; librarianship course; teacher training course; medicine.

The medical student, having got an upper second in Classical Tripos Part I, withdrew for a year, during which he cleared off First MB Parts I-III in nine months before proceeding to the Medical Sciences Tripos.

Yours sincerely,
L. P. WILKINSON,
King's College,
Cambridge.
December 13.

From Mr P. O'R. Smiley

Sir, I write as one of the unfortunate Mr Solly's "educators", whose "archaism", as Mr Leighton sees it (letters, December 12), is to blame for our former pupil's unemployment. It is evidently an axiom for Mr Leighton that the object of education is "utility", which he seems to define as the power of getting a job. But there *are* other possible premises, which are "archaic" only in the sense that they have been stated and defended for over two millennia.

Mr Leighton appears to have missed this debate; but I don't think that Mr Solly would accuse us of concealing it from *him*. He is already familiar with Cicero's ideal of education as "humanitas" in the *de Oratore*. Mr Leighton could do worse for a holiday-task this Christmas.

Yours faithfully,
P. O'R. SMILEY,
Senior Classics Master,
Ampleforth College,
York.
December 14.

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE

December 15: The Duchess of Gloucester attended a Christmas Lunch given by the Women's Travel Club of Great Britain at the Dorchester Hotel today.

Miss Jennifer Thomson was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

December 15: The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, this evening attended a Fashion Show given by Courtaulds Limited in aid of the Council at 22 Hanover Square.

Miss Jane Pugh was in attendance.

Sir Geoffrey and Lady Hutton regret that they will not be sending Christmas cards this year, but wish all their friends their very best wishes for Christmas and the new year.

A memorial service for Lady Strange will be held in Merginch Chapel on December 17 at 2.30 pm.

A memorial service for Mr E. G. Perkin, former editor-in-chief of *The Age*, Melbourne, will be held tomorrow at St Bride's, Fleet Street, at noon.

A memorial service for Major J. C. T. Mills will be held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Wednesday, December 17, at noon.

Mr Peter S. A. Edwards has left England to reside abroad. He may be contacted c/o PO Box 287, General Post Office, Hongkong.

Birthdays today

Professor Sir Harold Bailey, 76; Mr F. R. Brown, 65; Sir Jasper Hollom, 58; Lord Marsdale, 69; Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Norris, 75; Air Chief Marshal Sir Hubert Patch, 71; Sir Victor Pritchett, 75; Sir Hugh Rose, 73; Sir Roland Symonette, 77; Mr Justice Thompson, 68.

Latest wills

£8,000 left to home help

Lord Hardwicke, of Chelsea, London, left £53,145 net (duty paid, £5,266).

Other estates include (net before duty paid; duty not disclosed):

Bressloff, Mrs Fanny, of Hammersmith, London £195,353
Crane, Mr George Walter, of Buxton, Norfolk £247,134
Goodman, Mrs Fleur Jeanette, of Palmers Green, London £831,226
Gough Cooper, Mr James, of South Croydon £105,070
Mathews, Mr Benjamin Kenny Ollard, of Northampton, oil painter (duty paid, £7,757) £50,211

Today's engagements

The Queen holds investiture, 11.

The Prince of Wales presides at meeting of King George's Jubilee Trust for Youth, 39 Victoria Street, Westminster, 11.

Princess Anne attends Publicity Club of London Christmas Charity Luncheon, Hilton hotel, 12.30.

The Duke of Edinburgh attends dinner given by General Council of British Shipping, Grosvenor House, 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester goes to Scotland and, as Grand Prior of the Order of St John, opens extension of Scottish headquarters of Royal Overseas League, Princes Street, Edinburgh, 6.

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, December 15, 1950

Monopolies report

The first report of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Commission, on the supply of dental goods, was presented to Parliament yesterday. In the House of Commons at question time Mr Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, gave a summary of the report, and thanked the commission for a thorough and valuable piece of work.

He said he did not propose to say much about the implementation of the commission's recommendations. The first essential was that all concerned should now study the report and that the industry itself should consider very carefully how best to respond to the commission's findings.

[The commission, now the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, was established by an Act of 1948.]

Marriage

Brigadier L. C. Dunn
and Lady Mary Boscawen

The marriage took place quietly in Edinburgh on December 15 between Brigadier Leslie C. Dunn, 8 Wheatfield Road, Ayr, and Lady Mary Boscawen, widow of Major J. P. T. Boscawen.

AN APPEAL AT CHRISTMASTIME

Arthritis AND RHEUMATISM

PLEASE HELP THE CHARTERHOUSE RHEUMATISM CLINIC (A Registered Charity)

to continue its work for Rheumatic sufferers in all walks of life.

Send a gift today to:

The Dowager Countess of Iveagh, CHARTERHOUSE RHEUMATISM CLINIC (X), 50 Weymouth Street, London W1N 3DX.

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Luncheons

HM Government

Mr A. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, was host at a luncheon given yesterday by her Majesty's Government at Admiralty House in honour of Mr Gillespie, Canadian Minister for Energy Mines and Resources.

HM Government

Mr David Ennals, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was host yesterday at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the High Commissioner for Malawi and Mrs Mbaya.

Lady Mayoress

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained the following guests to luncheon at the Mansion House yesterday:

The Agent General for New South Wales and Lady Heaton, Group Captain and Alderman Gordon H. Pirie, Mrs Doris Fish, Air Commodore and Alderman the Hon Peter and Mrs Vanneck, Sir Alderman Peter Hopkinson, Captain the Master of the Armourers' and Brasiers' Company, Mrs H. A. R. Hudson and Mr and Mrs R. A. Norman and the Clerk to the Armourers' and Brasiers' Company.

British Council

Sir John Llewellyn, Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at 10 Spring Gardens in honour of Dr F. Uriarte, Federal Deputy for Sinaloa and Chairman of Higher Education Committee of Congress, Mexico, and Señora Uriarte.

Master's Club

A luncheon of the Master's Club was held at the St Stephen's restaurant yesterday to mark the anniversary of the birth of Sir John Berry Hobbs. The toast of the master was proposed by Mr Andrew Sandham. Also present were:

Mr [illegible], Mr J. Arlott, Mr A. W. Baker, Mr E. A. Bedser, Mr [illegible], Mr A. E. Dyson, Mr A. E. Fagg, Mr [illegible], Mr W. J. Gower, Mr J. Hobbs, Mr D. J. Insole, Mr [illegible], Mr [illegible] Sandham, Mr J. E. Mercer and Mr [illegible] Parker.

Dinners

Lady Rowlandson

Sir Graham and Lady Rowlandson gave a dinner party yesterday evening at 18 Grosvenor Square in honour of the High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Martin. Among those present included:

[illegible] Commissioner for Tourism and [illegible] High Commissioner for Malaysia and Lady Ramsay, High Commissioner for Singapore and Mrs York, [illegible] Lord and Lady Spens, Lord and Lady Brabazon, Lord George-Brown and Lady Ernest Martin.

Guild of Freemen of the City of London

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London held in Guildhall yesterday evening. The Master, Mr Charles Coward, presided, accompanied by Mrs Coward. Among those present were:

the High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs Watt, the Agent General for New South Wales and Lady Heaton, the Headmaster of the City of London Freemen's School and Mrs King, the Chamberlain of London, the town clerk and other officers of the City Corporation and the wardens of the guild, Mr Donald Gooding, Mr Harold Gould, Mr R. A. Hooper, and Mr J. Antinony Grant, MP, and their ladies.

Junior Carlton Club

The political council of the Junior Carlton Club entertained Lord Carrington at dinner yesterday evening. Lord Carrington was received by Mr Cyril Norton, chairman of the political council.

Bollinger Trophy

M and Mme Claude d'Hautefeuille represented Mme Bollinger at a dinner given at Claridge's hotel yesterday evening in honour of the Champion National Hunt Jockeys for the 1974-1975 season. Mme d'Hautefeuille presented the Bollinger Trophy to the champion jockey, Mr Tommy Stack, and to the leading amateur rider, Mr Ridley Lamb. The guest speaker was Lord Mancroft.

Service dinner

Combined Cadet Force Association

The Combined Cadet Force Association held their annual officers' dinner yesterday evening at the Connaught Rooms. Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Cameron, Air Member for Personnel, was the chief guest and Wing Commander D. F. Perrens, Contingent Commander of Eastbourne College CCF, was in the chair. Others present included:

General Sir Charles Harington, Major-General Viscount Bridgeman, Major-General G. S. Hancock, Major-General D. C. Shapland, Major-General W. Pate, Air Vice-Marshal T. B. Sowrey, Air Commodore T. H. Blackham, Brigadier H. Birtles, Colonel Sir Arthur Noble, Colonel D. A. Swinton, Colonel I. D. Lloyd-Jones, Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. Nicholl, Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Boyd, Lieutenant-Colonel R. K. Marshall, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Garside, Mr P. H. Adams, Mr E. J. Borrett, the Hon A. P. N. T. Cumming-Bruce, Mr D. J. Skinner and Mr Gordon Winter.

Library acquires Arenian folios

The British Library has acquired the Awag Vank' Gospels, one of the most important Armenian manuscripts to come on to the market for many years (our Arts Reporter writes).

It comprises 384 large vellum folios and the text was copied in AD 1200-01 at a monastery near Erzincan, in eastern Turkey. It is a beautifully illuminated manuscript of the four gospels, each title-page having a headpiece of interlacing design supporting peacocks and other birds, above elaborate initial letters and the Evangelists' symbols.

Christmas closing of monuments

Public ancient monuments and historic buildings will be closed on December 24, 25 and 26 and January 1, with the following exceptions:

The Painted Hall and Chapel at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, will be closed from December 20 to 27 and on January 1.

The Banqueting House, Whitehall, will be closed on December 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 and January 1.

Chiswick House will be closed on December 25 to 27, 29 and 30 and January 1.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. J. Crooks
and Miss N. E. Gale

The engagement is announced between Peter James, son of Colonel and Mrs R. R. Crooks, The Generals, Penalt, Monmouth, and Nancy Ellen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon G. Gale, of Beirut and Port Angeles, Washington, United States.

Mr C. R. M. Ellis
and Miss J. M. James

The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Ellis, of Gurneys, Town Hill, Lingfield, and Josephine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Leslie James, of 26 Alexandra Road, Stafford.

Mr A. E. B. Hoare
and Miss R. E. Martineau

The engagement is announced between Antony, eldest son of Captain and Mrs E. M. B. Hoare, of Velhurst Farm, Alfold, Surrey, and Rosalind, eldest daughter of Commander and Mrs P. R. Martineau, of Moses Hill Farm, Haslemere.

Mr R. A. Payne
and Miss E. V. M. Napolitano

The engagement is announced between Richard Adrian, only son of Mr and Mrs Donald Payne, of Dingle Cottage, Trelleck, Monmouthshire, and Edwina Venetia Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Joseph Napolitano, of 20 Chester Terrace, London, NW1.

Dr A. D. Sibbald
and Miss V. M. A. Mulcahy

The engagement is announced between Andrew Daniel, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. D. Sibbald, and Victoria Mary Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred G. Mulcahy, both of Buenos Aires.

Mr C. N. Vafopoulos
and Miss K. L. Elliott

The engagement is announced between Costa, only son of Mr and Mrs Nicolas C. Vafopoulos, of Athens, Greece, and Katherine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs James Martin Elliott, of Macon, Georgia, United States.

Mr M. J. B. Vann
and Mrs J. P. Preston-Rouse

The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs B. G. Vann, of Manor Farm, Lea, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, and Judith, only daughter of the late Mr and Mrs R. A. Preston, of Pagham, Sussex.

Pew-group sells for record of £15,015

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A Staffordshire salt-glaze group of two men and a woman in their church pew, the woman with a pug dog on her knee, was sold at Christie's yesterday for £15,015 with premium (estimate £8,000 to £12,000). The price is comfortably the highest paid at auction for English pottery of this type, but then the group represents the very best in early-eighteenth-century pottery. Other pew groups are known but most are in museums and few in such fine condition. The group was bought by Newbon on behalf of an English private collector.

Another rarity of Christie's English ceramics sale was a 4½ inch Chelsea figure of Scapin, bowing over his hat. It is an example of the Chelsea factory copying a Meissen figure modelled by Kaendler. The price was £5,544 (estimate 5,000 to £6,000); in 1967 it passed through Christie's priced at £2,940.

There was a "Girl in the Swing" white porcelain group of the Holy Family modelled after a print by Raphael. It is the only known example of the group and in spite of slight damage made £4,620 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000). A pair of Worcester sauceboats with moulded and coloured decoration made £3,927 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000); they are in pristine condition.

For more routine items prices were somewhat irregular, with a few failures, particularly among the figures. The sale totalled £62,510, with 19 per cent unsold. The strongest section of the sale was the English delftware, which seems to be highly popular.

Christie's sale of fine sculpture and works of art made £46,815 with only 7 per cent unsold. German interest in early wood carvings was underlined by the £3,696 (estimate £650 to £850) paid for a small fifteenth-century relief carving of the Adoration of the Kings. Christie's had estimated cautiously since the piece had been on the market recently.

An Elizabethan set of 10 painted wood song roundels, an amusing rarity, made £1,155 (estimate £1,000 to £2,000). This type of roundel was placed in front of a diner at the end of a meal and the "poesies" sung or recited by the guests. Their messages tend to underline the dangers of shrewish wives.

The Staffordshire salt-glaze pew-group that fetched £15,015

An important sale of English and Continental glass at Sotheby's saw outstandingly high prices on most items, but the greatest rarities failed to sell: a Beilby goblet at the equivalent of £9,900 with premium (estimate £8,000 to £12,000), a Ravenscroft tazza at £2,860 (estimate 3,000 to £4,000) and a Venetian-type glass encrusted mirror of about 1600 at £1,760 (estimate £2,000 to £4,000). Although a quarter of the £37,408 total was unsold, that represents a very small number of lots.

Among the rarities that did find buyers was a Bohemian wheel-engraved royal portrait beaker which went to Hübner from Germany at £3,410 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000), and a Venetian ewer of 1513-34, enamelled with the Medici arms, which went to Lameris, the French dealer, at £2,310 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000). Sotheby's sale of atlases and maps went as well as usual, totalling £87,861, with 2 per cent unsold. The top price was £5,720 (estimate £3,500 to £4,500) for Speed's *Theatrum Imperii Magnae Britanniae* of 1616.

A sale of American paintings and sculpture at Sotheby Parke Bernet in New York on Friday, made fairly predictable prices, apart from the top items, which tended not to find buyers. A charming William Sydney Mount genre scene of boys hustling coppers in a barn was sold for $65,000 (estimate $40,000 to $60,000) or £32,100, but a Bierstadt estimated at $60,000 to $80,000 failed to sell, as did a Mary Cassatt portrait estimated at $50,000 to $60,000. The sale totalled $429,430, with 10 per cent of the lots unsold.

The Parke Bernet sale of Russian works of art, also on Friday, saw highly selective buying, with only three quarters of the items offered finding buyers. Several important enamels failed to sell, but the Fabergé did better, with a silver-gilt and enamelled kovsh of about 1900 at $30,000 (estimate $30,000 to $50,000) or £14,615. The knock-down total of the sale was £226,235.

Painting sale: Street scenes and topographical views made the highest prices at Phillips's sale of fine nineteenth-century paintings, which realized £94,745. McConnell Mason paid £8,000 for a Venetian bridge scene by Franz Unterberger (estimate £7,000 to £10,000) and Goss paid £6,200 for a late nineteenth-century view of Piccadilly, London, by Edward John Gregory (estimate £5,000 to £7,000).

A cheerful painting of a country fête at Haddon Hall by Ignacio Leon went to Miura for £5,400 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000).

Viscount Exmouth and Rosemary Countess of Burford leaving Kensington Register Office yesterday after their marriage.

University news

New laboratory gives fillip to cancer research

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

Work on the early detection of cancer will be intensified with the opening yesterday of a cancer research laboratory at Cookridge Hospital, Leeds, for Leeds University's department of radiotherapy.

The laboratory has been established by means of a three-year grant from the Yorkshire Cancer Research Campaign to Professor C. A. Joslin, head of the radiotherapy department, amounting to £60,000.

A university representative said Professor Joslin, who has been concerned for some years at the lack of clinical and laboratory methods for very early diagnosis, would be attempting to develop the MEM test (Macrophage Electrophoretic Migration Assay).

Recent work by Newcastle and Cardiff cancer research groups, the latter with which Professor Joslin has been associated, suggests that in many cases positive indication of the presence of cancer could be given several years before any tumour became physically apparent.

Other university news:

Oxford

G. W. S. Barrow, MA, DLitt, professor of Scottish history at St Andrews University, has been awarded Ford's Lectureship in English History for 1976-77.

Prizes:

Arran Johnson Prize in Pathology: C. J. P. Jolliffe and Universal Colleges Prize in Physiology: Charles Oldham Scholarship in Zoology: Heather Mary Angus; Gerald Averay Wentworth Scott-Eastern Archaeological Prize: Miss E. C. Boardman; Scholefield Prize for the History of Religions, Culture and the Civil and Political Institutions in Mediaeval and Modern Europe: Miss Rachel Philipps James (Crymmych). Dr Joyce Rowley (Swansea), and Mr P. J. Phillips (Cardiff) to members of the Broadcasting Council for Wales, replacing Professor Graham Rees, Miss Margaret Wooloff, and Mr Neil Taylor, whose five-year term of office ends this month.

Mrs Ray Michie, a speech therapist, has been chosen as prospective Liberal candidate for Argyll for the proposed Scottish assembly.

Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, aged 46, a National Coal Board engineer, of Farnworth, has been chosen as prospective Labour candidate for Leigh, Lancashire. Mr Harold Boardman (Labour), who has a majority of 14,635, will retire at the next general election.

Mr Richard Smith to succeed Mr R. E. Chapman as regional chairman of industrial tribunals for Birmingham from January 2. He will continue to serve as chairman for Birmingham.

BALLIOL COLLEGE: Emeritus fellowship, R. W. Hunt, MA, DPhil; senior research fellowship, J. E. Story.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE: The Arthur Lehs Broomfield Memorial Prize in History has been divided between A. R. Smith, commoner (the Edward VI OS, Birmingham), and D. V. Wall, commoner (Friends' S. Saffron Waldron).

London

An academic department of neurosurgery has been established in the Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, Holborn, through an endowment of £360,000 from the Brain Research Trust. The department will be headed by Professor Valentine Logue.

Bristol

Grants

£27,535 from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to the department of geology (Dr D. Hamilton) as a supplementary grant for research on sedimentary processes in the western approaches, and an extension until November 30, 1976.

£15,000 from the Department of the Environment to the department of architecture (Sir L. Burmester) for research on better insulated houses (18 months over two years).

£55,250 from the Science Research Council (SRC) to the department of inorganic chemistry (Professor D. A. Stone) for research on synthetic structural and mechanistic studies in organometallic chemistry, over three years from October 1, 1975.

£27,000 from the SRC to the department of botany (Professor D. F. Smith) for research on interactions between intra-cellular symbiotic chorella and their insect hosts, over three years from March 1.

£12,250 from the NERC to the department of organic chemistry (Professor Sir W. Eglinton) for research on lipid biochemistry of the particulates in faecal pellets over two years from November 1.

£12,000 from the SRC to the school of mathematics (Dr D. H. Peregrine) for research on waves on beaches (second instalment of solutions), over two years from April 1.

£10,000 from the Medical Research Council to the department of physiology (Dr P. A. Merton) for a supplementary grant for research on neuromuscular mechanisms in man.

£9,000 from the Department of Education and Science for the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (Professor A. H. Halsey) for research on the evaluation of the effectiveness of educational priority area projects in Birmingham.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Kenneth Barnes, a deputy secretary in the Department of Employment, to be Permanent Secretary in succession to Sir Conrad Heron, who is to retire on February 21.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey to be promoted Marshal of the RAF in August, and to be Chief of the Defence Staff from October in succession to Field Marshal Sir Michael Carver.

Air Chief Marshal Sir NeilCameron to be Chief of the Air Staff from August 7 in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey.

General Sir Roland Gibbs to become Chief of the General Staff in July, in succession to General Sir Peter Hunt, who is to retire.

Mr John Dilks, aged 42, a former leader of Derby Borough Council, has been chosen as prospective Labour candidate for Northampton, South, held by Mr Michael Morris (Conservative) with a majority of 141.

Dr Carl Clowes, aged 31, a general practitioner, of Llanelltalarn, Caernarfon, has been chosen as prospective Plaid Cymru candidate for Montgomery, held by Mr Emlyn Hooson, QC (Liberal) with a majority of 3,859.

Oxford museum brings town and gown together

From Philip Howard
Oxford

The city of dreaming spires and screaming tyres is not short of museums, either. But today another, a museum of Oxford, is being officially opened by the county museum services to be the town's own exhibition of its history, to complement the gowns' many great museums and libraries. It fulfils a dream that local collectors and antiquarians of the ancient city have cherished since at least Alderman Fletcher in the eighteenth century.

The main part of the museum is a linear chronological progress from the dawn of Oxford, with its Roman potters, through medieval Oxonford and the university cuckoo growing to occupy almost the entire nest, to the contemporary car factories of Cowley and their concomitant traffic problems. It is dramatically illustrated with *son et lumière*, and the other latest techniques of museum display. A football in a dark corridor suddenly transports the visitor into the middle of a lurid and noisy medieval riot between town and gown.

One of the advantages of starting a museum in Oxford, apart from the wealth of its history, is the wealth and generosity of the neighbours. The Ashmolean has lent many of its Roman, Saxon, and medieval objects. The Bodleian has lent such ancient treasures as medieval students' notebooks and the breviary of the naughty nuns of Littlemore, who are recorded as having taken time from their devotions to romp with the boys in the cloister.

The colleges themselves are also generous repositories of old treasure, plate and pictures. Jesus College has supplied Henrietta Maria's ring holding a miniature of Charles I. Magdalen has lent a nineteenth-century stained glass window from its chapel. And the museum is preserving the old chapel screen from Exeter College, and the shipwreck of Keble College barge, gaudy ornament of the Isis in eights week until the 1960s. Town and gown are easier bedfellows in their new museum than they have been in their past.

One of the most imaginative innovations of the museum is a sequence of period scenes, showing the furniture and life styles of different people's rooms at different periods, from that of a sixteenth-century landlord to that of a nineteenth-century don in the spacious donnish nirvana of North Oxford.

Profiles of the occupants of the rooms have been learnedly and lovingly researched from the records and orally, so that the visitor can see the exact furniture and reading list of a gentleman commoner of the eighteenth century, and the college surplices that a washerwoman in the 1880s in the Jericho slum district used to take in to launder.

The museum, in the old public library adjacent to the town hall in Blue Boar Street, has a room for temporary exhibitions and a lecture room. It promises to become an important centre for local and regional historical research. Aware that Oxford is one of England's main tourist centres, it has labelled everything in five languages, including Japanese and Arabic.

Dial-a-Carol

Carols sung by the Bach Choir, a Cambridge college choir and two cathedral choirs make up this year's Dial-a-Carol service, available until Christmas Eve (except Sundays) on the Dial-a-Disc number.

RAF wings ceremony

Officers of No 21 Graduate Entry received their wings on Friday at a ceremony held in the College Hall, Royal Air Force College Cranwell. The wings were presented by Air Vice-Marshal W. Harbison, Air Officer Commanding No 11 Group. The following officers received their wings:

Flight Lieutenants J. A. Galbraith, Hastings HS, Christ's D. P. Chester, Dean Close, Cheltenham Grammar, R. D. Middleton, Hampden, Kowloon Dem. C. F. Shorrocks, The Duke of Durham (Light Infantry), A. Sinclair, Gerrard Gosiln, Reading, A. Wright, Harris Lane SVI, Reading.

Harrow School

The winter term at Harrow ends today. The Cock House match was won by the Headmaster's, who beat Elmfield (Mr M. W. Pallthorpe) by 16 points to 6. The Torpids final was won by Moretons (Mr C. D. Sumner), who beat West Acre (Mr J. Webster) by 22 points to 6. Next term begins on Tuesday, January 13.

Series on Disraeli for television

Four one-hour television programmes on the life of Disraeli are to be made at Elstree Studios late next year and ATV is to extend by 24 episodes its series *Space 1999*, which has been showing on American television.

Sir Lew Grade, chairman and chief executive of ATV, announced yesterday that it was also intended to produce a series based on the story of Frieda von Richthofen and D. H. Lawrence, with Sian Phillips and Peter O'Toole.

Memorial service

Dr J. F. Foster

A memorial service for Dr John F. Foster, former Secretary General of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, took place on Friday at the Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square. The Right Rev John McKie, sometime Bishop of Geelong, Australia, officiated, and Sir Charles Wilson, Principal of Glasgow University, gave an address. Among those present were Mrs Foster, Mr and Mrs J. C. Foster and representatives of United Kingdom and Commonwealth governments and of the world university community.

Science report

Palaeontology: size and survival

Animals tend to grow larger in the course of evolution, but the price they pay, according to Dr A. Hallam, of Oxford University, is early extinction. His conclusions are based on a statistical analysis of the rate of emergence and the survival times of sixty taxa of extinct sea creatures which left their shell remains in the Jurassic rock 150 million years ago.

The taxa belong to four large groups: the bivalve molluscs, such as cockles and mussels, and the enormous extinct ancestors of the squid, for example. The four groups evolved at different rates, but in each of them the taxa whose size increased the fastest disappeared from the fossil record the soonest.

The tendency to grow larger applies throughout the animal kingdom and is known as Cope's rule. Biologists have made many suggestions about why an increase in size should be such a universal advantage: it may help in the capture of prey or the evasion of predators, or make it easier for the animal to regulate its temperature or other internal conditions.

But why, in that case, should large species die out more quickly? Dr Hallam points out that the food supply can support fewer large animals than small ones, so that larger species should be rarer. That view is supported by an examination of the relationship of size to number of individuals among Jurassic bivalves. The smallest species makes up 52 per cent of the total number of species, whereas the five largest species together make up only 5 per cent. Rarer animals are more prone to extinction, so that would explain the inferior survival times of the fastest growing animals.

Although the general tendency is for animals to become larger the reverse process does occur and smaller species have evolved from larger ones. But, Dr Hallam says, there is no record of any case in which a decrease in size has occurred gradually.

He suggests that a different kind of evolutionary process is involved in size reduction. Fossil records of the process are hard to find, perhaps because the smaller species evolved from a few individual animals, probably rather suddenly. That could happen, for example, if the animal retained its immature form in adult life.

That strategy is known as paedomorphosis and accounts for some of the most radical new departures in evolution. The mud-puppy is a famous amphibian example, in which the evolutionary process seems to be incomplete. Mud-puppies remain permanently at the tadpole stage, with rudimentary limbs and large gills to enable them to live in water. But if they are given an injection of the appropriate hormone they complete their development into a land-dwelling form.

By Nature-Times News Service.

Source: Nature December 11 (258, 493: 1975)

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OBITUARY

THE EARL OF CRAWFORD AND BALCARRES

Service to the arts

The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, the Premier Earl of Scotland, died on December 13 at the age of 75.

David Robert Alexander Lindsay, 28th Earl of Crawford and 11th Earl of Balcarres, was born on November 25, 1900 and educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford. His academic career was not particularly distinguished either at Eton or at Oxford, but he was brought up amidst the almost unbelievable treasures of his homes at Balcarres, at Haigh Hall, Wigan, and in Audley Square, inherited the scholarly tastes which had distinguished his ancestors for several generations, and at Eton formed a lifelong friendship with the master who shared his interests and lent him books on the fine arts.

In the First World War he was too young to do more than get into uniform. On leaving Oxford, after serving for a time as Hon Attaché in Rome, he was elected in 1924 as Conservative MP for the Lonsdale Division of Lancashire and so served until the death of his father in 1940 transferred him to the House of Lords, in which he sat as Baron Wigan. He had enjoyed the House of Commons, but the House of Lords, where from time to time he made effective speechs on subjects of which he had special knowledge, gave him more leisure for what was to be his life's work, the service of the arts in Great Britain. In 1940 he was already a Trustee of the National Gallery; he was frequently reappointed to that board thereafter, and was presently associated, in several cases as Chairman, with the British Museum, the Tate Gallery, the National Galleries and the National Library of Scotland, the Fine Arts Commission, the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries, the National and the Pilgrim Trusts, the National Art-Collections Fund, and less permanent bodies such as the Waverley Committee on the Export of Works of Art. He was a most valuable committee-man and an excellent chairman, businesslike without being aggressively so, and even tempered, betraying his rare impatiences by signs seldom perceptible except to close friends.

Probably very few who sat with or under him failed to regard him not only with affection but also with admiration and respect for the care he took to master agenda and for the endless pains he was willing to devote to causes which he had at heart. When, for instance, in 1962 the Royal Academy announced unexpectedly that it was going to sell Leonardo da Vinci's cartoon of the Virgin and St Anne and the National Art-Collections Fund, almost at a moment's notice, undertook to try and raise the £800,000 required to save it for the nation, Crawford, its chairman, postponed an operation for which he was due and for the next four months spent almost every day at the Appeal headquarters in the National Gallery organizing money-raising schemes, broadcasting, giving personal interviews, and writing personal appeals to possible donors and letters of thanks to generous subscribers. Many others helped, but the final success of the Appeal, in face of many difficulties, was essentially due to him.

By the time that Crawford succeeded to the peerage the vast collections of the house of Lindsay had already been depleted by many sales, but enough remained to fill the three houses mentioned abo and when Balcarres became sole residence, further sa were necessitated not only meet estate duty but to ma it possible to house the resi in the great house in F which overlooks the Firth Forth. Some collections w deposited on loan in librar but enough was retained make Balcarres a verita Aladdin's cave. To see th owner among these treasu was a delightful experier That he should know the tures and works of art was be expected but he was equ at home among the books documents and at a visit request would lay hand at o on, say, the *editio princeps* a minor Greek author o letter of Mrs Fitzherbert would discourse on the pri or the writer as informedly on the pictures and the o artistic treasures.

Crawford had always tended that parts of this lib which included The Borgi Collection of Pamphlets Broadsheets, printed in the V can between the sixteenth eighteenth centuries, a co tion unrivalled anywhere in world; a French Revolutio and Napoleonic collection pamphlets and newspap second only to the Bri Library collection; the r complete collection in existe of English Civil War n papers; The Miscellan Broadsides, one of the lar existing collections of se teenth century popular lit ture relating to a whole re of public and private affair the period; and the Lu Tracts, one of the finest pri collections outside Germ should pass to the nation at death as payment, in kind estate duty.

It was a fear of his that introduction of a Wealth would compel him to sell th collections on the open ma during his lifetime, simply pay it, and he represer strongly the loss to the natio heritage this would involve evidence he presented to Select Committee on a We Tax, earlier this year.

In the event, with the fu of the Wealth Tax still an o question, the libraries for wh he intended them will benefit from these incompara collections.

His committee du brought him often to London chairman he had to v properties belonging or offe to the National Trust, and si he was a practised and ag able speaker he was in dem to open new or refurbis museums and galleries; he a lectured in America on bet of the National Art-Collecti Fund. No doubt he enjoy much or most of this, but was happiest at home, and he occasionally complained was less of labours elsewh than of the too frequ absences from Balcarres wh they entailed.

Crawford was created G in 1951 and KT four years la and was Deputy Lieutenant Fifeshire. He held honor doctorates of the Universities Oxford, Cambridge, St Andre London, Manchester, Exe York, Warwick and Amh College, Massachussets, and Rector of the last from 195 1955. He was also an ho ary Royal Academician Fellow of several other pro sional bodies. He married 1925, Mary, daughter of L Richard Cavendish and niec the 9th Duke of Devonsh They had three sons of wh the eldest, Lord Balniel, succeeds him.

SIR JAMES GRAY

Professor Sir James Gray, CBE, MC, FRS, has died at Cambridge at the age of 84. For the last 10 years of his life he had been sadly incapacitated as the result of an accident. He was Professor of Zoology in the University of Cambridge from 1937 to 1959.

James Gray was born in October, 1891, of Scottish parents. He was educated at Merchant Taylors' School, and from there won a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge. He began research immediately after taking his degree, and was elected a Fellow of King's College in 1914. But his career was soon interrupted by the war during which he served as a captain in The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment from 1914-1918, and was awarded the Military Cross. What he was most proud of, however, was the Croix de Guerre with palms conferred upon him on the field of battle by Marshal Foch.

Returning to Cambridge after the War he was successively Balfour student, lecturer in the Department of Zoology, and Reader in Experimental Zoology. It was during this time that he produced the research for which he will principally be remembered; on the division of cells, on growth, and on ciliary movement. This work, meticulously carried out and beautifully described, established him as one of the leaders in the field of cell biology, and he was elected to a Fellowship of The Royal Society in 1929. He also wrote a monograph on ciliary movement, and a text book *Experimental Cytology*, which was a classic in its day, and even now is still consulted.

After the publication of *Experimental Cytology*, Gray gave up cell biology completely, and turned to the study of animal locomotion. Just why he made this change is not clear. Perhaps he felt that the great reorientation in cell biology which followed the discoveries of the biochemists and biophysicists, left no room for his own, more biological, sort of approach. But his new field of research proved equally rewarding, and led to a further series of important papers on the mechanics of swimming in fishes, on the nervous control of movement, and on ciliary and flagellar movement in spermatozoa and micro-organisms.

Whether this research satisfied him as his ea work did, is doubtful. Per it was this quantum of dis faction that led him, tow the end of his life, to re once more to his first love, to examine again some of problems of cell div James Gray once said th anyone were ever to tell how a cell divides, he w die contented. This parti joy was denied him, but haps he derived some co tion from the fact that se of his own students cond his work on this problem

He never let his res slip from first to second He managed, nevertheles be a superb lecturer—his Institution Christmas le for children, in parti were magnificent — and carried a great weigh administration. He was l responsible for the pla and building in the thirties of the new Zo Department at Camb Then in 1937 he became fessor of Zoology at Camb and gradually built up the largest, and certainl of the foremost of Z Departments in the coun

During and after the 1 War he served on the A tural Research Council. H also president of the I Biological Association, a t of the British Museum, Development Commis Honorary doctorates wer ferred on him by Durha Edinburgh Universities, for his public work h made CBE in 1946, an knighted in 1954.

It was not for his work that he would mos to be remembered. H happiest in private, wi wife and adopted son daughter at home in Cam or on holiday in Scotlan with his colleagues laboratory, or at the Stration on the Isle of C in the Clyde where he much of his research. Th testimony to him, both scientist and as a n indeed a private one: it from the great body o bridge men, many of the in Chairs all over the who began their work him, and who held him affection.

He married in 1920 Christine King.

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

It's superbeing married to a millionaire.
Don Zoilo.
World's most exquisite cream sherry.
DON ZOILO

OF CRAWFORD
ALCARRES
e to the arts

owing public
ployees a
er political
page 17

EC finance ministers luctantly accept British se for import curbs

David Cross
s, Dec 15
in's EEC partners today d themselves to the in- lity of British import after a final warning to vernment about the risks d.
liminary report from Mr d Dell, the Paymaster l on his Government's ons, left the rest of the mity with the impres- af any restrictions would dest in their scope.
rtheless, Mr Dell came strong pressure from his colleagues to avoid im- ontrols if at all possible. fans Apel, the West Ger- finance Minister, told re- that Britain's planned ions were dangerous be- they might encourage EEC member states, as s non-member countries, ow suit.
r, Mr Willy de Clercq, lgian Finance Minister, porters he had found Mr explanations "reassur- orth on the likely content ration of the restrictions. apparently means that ritish Government has de- to steer clear of any ian curbs on particularly ive products like cars, and ntrate its attention on such as textiles and shoes.

M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the French Finance Minister, said he expected the British to announce "a very small package" of import controls later this week.

Mr Dell was representing Britain at an informal meeting of EEC finance ministers because Mr Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was due to attend today's session, had influenza, British officials said.

Mr Dell refused to comment to journalists about his Government's intentions.

He would say only that the Government was aware of its EEC membership obligations—a reference to the fact that it is up to the European Commission to authorize any import restrictions.

He specifically referred to Article 135 of the Treaty of Accession, which permits import controls "if before December 31, 1977, difficulties arise which are serious and liable to persist in any sector of the economy or which could bring about serious deterioration in the economic situation of a given area".

Mr de Clerq stressed that under this so-called "safeguard clause" priority must be given to such measures "as will least disturb the functioning of the Common Market".

He pointed out that when Italy wanted to introduce swingeing import restrictions last year, it finally adopted a less damaging import deposit scheme under pressure from the rest of the Community.

During today's deliberations, the ministers agreed to look favourably on an Irish request for a first EEC loan of at least $200m (£100m) from the petrodollar facility set up by the Community to help member countries with balance of payments difficulties. Final details, including the conditions under which the money will be made available, are expected to be made at the ministers' next meeting in January.

The Irish share of the loan, which the Community set at a maximum of $3,000m just over a year ago, would be used to offset the £60m or so deficit on current account expected to emerge during the current financial year.

Italy is apparently no longer interested in a loan at the present time. This is mainly because the Commission, which has been negotiating with oil producing countries for petrodollar funds, has so far been able to raise only about $500m.

Swiss connexion; Letters, page 16

ommunity agrees on IMF gold

ssels, Dec 15.—European unity finance ministers sed an agreement today ng their central banks to old put up for sale by the ational Monetary Fund. disclosing this after the ers' meeting, Mr Willy de , the Belgian Finance er, said that the minis- had agreed that all the of a gold pact reached world monetary reform last August should be im- ted as soon as possible. Clercq felt confident the of Ten meeting in Paris on Friday would formalize the agreement.

The gold reform accord has three fundamental elements.

First, to enable the IMF to return one-sixth of its gold holding to the original owners at the official price of $42.22 an ounce. Secondly, to allow the IMF to sell off another sixth on the free market, using the premium received over the official price to finance and aid funds for developing countries.

Thirdly, to authorize central banks to buy and sell gold among themselves and from the IMF.

The main problem was timing, but the EEC feel that all the points should be instituted together immediately, without waiting for the formal ratification of the necessary alterations in the IMF statutes.

This would therefore enable any central bank wanting to buy IMF gold being sold for a profit by the IMF to do so.

EEC officials said this would interest central banks particularly keen to maintain a fairly high free market bullion price.

Admiral to head state shipbuilding body

By Peter Hill

Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, until yesterday Controller of the Navy, was appointed by the Government yesterday as chairman-designate of British Shipbuilders, the new state organization.

Mr Graham Day, chief executive of Cammell Laird shipbuilders on Merseyside, will be the new state body's deputy chairman and chief executive.

Both appointments, together with that of Mr Alan Dunning as secretary, were announced by Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry. In a Commons written reply he said that a second deputy chairman, who would be a trade unionist, would be named shortly. There is growing speculation that this post will be filled by Mr Ken Griffin, of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union, who is at present a special adviser to Mr Varley.

Working initially from offices shared with the National Enterprise Board in London, the two executives made it clear at a press conference last night that the new organization would be as streamlined as possible.

Mr Day, who was brought in by a Tory government four years ago to revamp a troubled Cammell Laird, in which the Government had had a 50 per cent interest, indicated that he would like to see less than 100 people involved fulltime with the new body. "There is no point in taking away functions from the yards and duplicating them", he said.

Mr Day will be paid £19,329.68 —slightly less than he received at Cammell Laird—and Sir Anthony's salary will be about £23,000. Both men emphasized that they hoped to establish their strategy before the new organization was formally set up in October.

Business Diary, page 17

STC closure will mean loss of 1,000 jobs

By Richard Allen

Standard Telephone and Cables is to run down its north Woolwich plant from the middle of next year and concentrate all telephone cable production at its Newport, Gwent, factory.

The final closure planned for 1977 will mean the eventual loss of around 1,000 jobs, and the workforce was told of the decision yesterday by Mr Peter Thew, general manager, of the telephone cable operations decision.

At the same time the company, the United Kingdom subsidiary of ITT, announced in London that it had won a £25m export order for undersea telecommunication lines from Compania Telefonica Nacional re Espana, the Spanish National Telephone Company.

Mr Thew told employees that changes in communication technology had meant a permanent decline in demand for telephone cable

Government and Barclays to save part of Norton Villiers Triumph

By Clifford Webb

Further state financial assistance for Norton Villiers Triumph will be announced by the Government shortly. It is understood that between £250,000 and £500,000 will be provided to enable the ailing motor cycle group to operate on a much reduced scale.

Barclays, NVT's bankers, are being asked to match this state aid. It will leave the company, which received state assistance of £74.8m 2½ years ago without a major motor cycle manufacturing plant.

A High Court hearing of creditors' petitions to wind up NVT Manufacturing, the plant at Small Heath, Birmingham, was adjourned for a third time yesterday to enable rescue negotiations to be completed.

Mr Charles Aldous, appearing for the Receiver appointed by Barclays, said it was desirable that the company should not be in liquidation when the documents for the proposed rescue deal were signed. Afterwards, there was no reason why NVT Manufacturing should not be liquidated.

Mr John Laws, for the petitioners, said if the negotiations were concluded by Friday they would ask for the compulsory winding up of the company.

It is understood that the rescue scheme calls for profitable sub-contract work to be moved from Small Heath's 11-acre site to smaller premises in Birmingham. Work would also begin there on the manufacture of spare parts for existing motor cycles.

The manufacture of three-cylinder Tridents will be run down at Small Heath and the premises sold by the liquidator. The plan apparently calls for NVT Ltd, the parent company, to purchase the new skeleton operation, to be known as Honordene, from the liquidator.

NVT will then continue in business marketing Triumph *twin cylinder motor cycles* made by the Meriden Workers Cooperative, although there are moves afoot by the Cooperative to undertake its own marketing.

NVT's only claim to be a motor cycle manufacturer will then rest on the production of small mopeds which will begin soon in a former warehouse near Lichfield, Staffordshire. They will use an Italian-made engine and other components.

Meanwhile, workers at Norton Villiers Wolverhampton are still trying to raise private finance to enable them to reopen the factory which was closed nearly four months ago. Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, recently turned down the workers' appeal for state finance.

Retail sales volume up 1.2pc last month

By Melvyn Westlake

This year's sharp decline in retail sales appears to have been arrested although the level of consumer spending remains depressed. There was a percentage rise of 1.2 in the volume of retail sales in November, according to provisional estimates published yesterday by the Department of Industry.

This is shown by the official index of retail sales which rose to 106.5 last month, from 105.3 in October, seasonally adjusted (*1971=100*). Retail sales account for nearly half of all consumer expenditure.

If the decline in high street spending has "bottomed out", this could have considerable significance for the level of demand in the economy, and thus for output and employment.

The latest figures show that the average level of retail trade in the three months September-November was about 3 per cent below the average of the first eight months of the year, but 1.2 per cent above the June-August period.

However, in spite of the slightly higher volume of recent spending, retail sales remain substantially below the levels of 1973 and 1974.

On average the first 11 months of this year have seen a fall in sales of 1.6 per cent from 1974 levels and 2.3 per cent on 1973 levels. This fall has contributed markedly to the drop in industrial production and the consequent rise in unemployment.

Figures for the early part of this year were distorted by the surge in spending after the Budget and the exceptionally large fall later.

However, it is clear that spending has been affected both by rising prices, which have reduced spending power, and by the widespread desire to save more out of earned income.

The savings ratio in recent months has been at an historically high level. As a percentage of personal income savings reached a peak of 14.2 per cent in the first quarter of this year, dropping only to 13.4 per cent in the second quarter.

This compares with an average of 12.65 per cent in 1974 and 11.2 per cent in 1973. In addition, there was a fall of some 3 per cent in real personal disposable income during the first half of this year, caused by higher taxes and a faster increase in prices than incomes.

RETAIL SALES AND HP

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Industry

		Sales by volume 1971=100	New credit extended £m
1972		105.8	2,497
1973		110.7	2,871
1974		109.9	2,517
1973	Q1	111.8	761
	Q2	108.3	681
	Q3	110.6	717
	Q4	112.0	712
1974	Q1	109.8	576
	Q2	107.3	614
	Q3	111.0	648
	Q4	111.6	679
1975	Q1	111.5	723
	Q2	108.7	756
	Q3	105.3	733
1974			
Nov		112.8	224
Dec		110.8	224
1975			
Jan		113.0	246
Feb		112.3	243
March		109.4	234
April		120.2	271
May		102.5	247
June		104.5	238
July		104.7	246
Aug		104.9	235
Sept		106.0	252
Oct		105.3	252
Nov		106.5	—

Lex extends its Volvo franchise

By Edward Townsend

Lex Service Group, which operates Volvo Concessionaires, has concluded negotiations for the takeover from the Swedish car company of Volvo BV Concessionaires, the British concern which formerly distributed Daf cars.

Lex, which has distributed Volvo cars in the United Kingdom since 1958, is paying £3.4m in cash for the business and will thus handle all of Volvo's car *range in Britain*.

The two businesses will share Volvo Concessionaires' facilities, previously developed for a larger volume car market.

A spokesman for Lex said yesterday there would be no redundancies among staff of Volvo BV, formerly Daf Motors (GB). The deal takes effect on December 29.

Volvo Concessionaires has been providing management assistance to the Daf UK business since March after Volvo's acquisition of a 75 per cent interest in the Dutch car manufacturing company.

The purchase price for Volvo BV represents the value of the net tangible assets of the business at the date of acquisition after taking into account its 1975 results.

Monopolies inquiry into Bryanston's crane bid

By Our Financial Staff

The controversial bid by Amalgamated Industrials, a subsidiary of Bryanston Finance, for Herbert Morris, a Loughborough crane maker, has been referred to the Monopolies Commission for investigation.

Acting on the advice of the Office of Fair Trading, Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has made the reference on the technical ground of the size of assets involved.

It is believed, however, that there is some disquiet in Whitehall that the bid should have been made while the affairs of Bryanston, which owns 76 per cent of Amalgamated Industrials, have been under investigation by the Department of Trade. This investigation, which has been going on since May, is under Section 165 of the Companies Act, 1965.

The Monopolies Commission is also being asked to investigate and report on the possibility that a merger situation "already exists" between AI and Herbert Morris. This arises from the acquisition last month by AI of a further 150,000 shares (4.5 per cent) of Morris at 60p a share, in addition to its existing 31.1 per cent.

Afterwards, AI announced that in order to comply with the rules of the City Takeover Code, it would make a cash bid, also at 60p a share and worth £1.3m in all, for the remainder of Morris. This offer will now be withdrawn pending the outcome of the investigation, a spokesman for Seton Trust, AI's financial advisers, said last *night*.

Bryanston Finance is itself owned by the A. T. Smith Organisation, whose chairman, Mr Alfred "Teddy" Smith, is also chairman of both Bryanston Finance and Amalgamated Industrials. Mr Smith and his associate, Mr Per Hegard, are furthermore directors of Herbert Morris.

The Morris board, excluding Mr Smith and Mr Hegard, said last month that they "deplored" AI's action in making the bid and claimed that it was "wholly unacceptable and contrary to the interests of the remaining shareholders in Herbert Morris".

Herbert Morris shares closed 2p lower at 64p after the announcement last night.

Financial Editor, page 17

mn plan safeguard nployment

st German federal and nal economic ministers agreed on a plan to create than 430,000 new jobs in ssed areas and preserve ther 178,000, according to conomics ministry spokes- in Bonn.
ey aim to encourage indus- investment of more than ,000m (about £7,000m) up 979 by means of a 000m programme of subsi- and investment premiums. e money is to be spent in including those which r on East Germany, and in ia, Lower Saxony and Rhine Westphalia.— er.

eral Motors s up 63 pc

neral Motors announced etroit that car sales for December 1-10 period were 3.3 per cent to 121,746 from 66,275 units in the arable period a year er.
was the first time GM's *car sales had exceeded the* pace of last year on a dar year basis.
e company said commer- vehicle sales in early mber rose 88.3 per cent to 6.

w Eximbank head

ashington, Dec 15.—Presi- Ford is to appoint Mr hen M. Dubrul, Jr, a New investment banker, to be l of the United States Ex- -Import Bank, the White se said yesterday. The ap- tment is subject to Senate roval.—AP-Dow Jones.

Increased US stocks emphasizes recovery

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Dec 15

A sharp increase of fully $1,888m (about £936m) was seen in the volume of goods held in stock by American businesses in October, according to Department of Commerce figures released today.

The rise, which compares with one in September of $425m, accelerates the upward rate of stock accumulation which started in August, and provides fresh evidence about the underlying strength of the present economic recovery.

The new figures, which are larger than was generally expected, show a vast increase in the volume of retail stocks of goods and, *although a decline* was registered again for stocks held by manufacturers, the drop was the smallest since they started to fall in February.

Total business stocks reached a seasonally adjusted $266,975m in October, which is the highest overall total since last March, and the jump from September to October was the largest monthly gain since the rise of just under $4,000m last December.

Stocks rose by fully $1.593m at the retail level in October, after increasing by $471m in the previous month.

The level of stocks of goods now held by retailers, at $74,642m, is the highest on record, and the gain in October was the largest of its kind since an increase of $2,387m was registered in October of last year.

These latest figures show clearly that the upward trend of retail stocks that started in July is accelerating, and economists believe this is a good indicator of rising business confidence and increasing consumer spending.

At the wholesale level the rate of increase is considerably more modest, but the rise of $391m in October is still far greater than the September gain of *$124m, and the total of wholesale stocks* is now the highest since January, at $46,016m.

Manufacturing stocks, meanwhile, are now at their lowest level since October of last year at $145,062m, but government economists are now optimistic that an increase might well have been registered in November for the first time in 10 months.

Government economists now unanimously agree that the economic recovery is well under way, and some are again raising fears about its strength, considering that it may be too forceful

Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, addressed himself to this question yesterday at the University of Akron, Ohio, *where he said there was a dan*ger of inflation again reaching double figures.

Such a development, he said "would ultimately plunge us into an economic recession even more serious than the one we have just experienced."

The Fed chief stressed that inflation could not be brought fully under control unless the deficit was reduced, *and he suggested that this fiscal* year the deficit might be about $90,000m.

This estimate is about $20,000m higher than the latest official prediction

Merrill Lynch will boost stake in bank to 95pc

By Our Banking Correspondent

Merrill Lynch, the world's largest stockbroking organization, is to increase from 74 to *95 per cent its stake in Merrill* Lynch-Brown Shipley Bank, a London-based consortium bank. It is also planning to inject around $5m of new loan capital into the bank.

The deal involves Merrill Lynch, whose headquarters are in New York, in buying 21 per cent of the 26 per cent stake in ML-BS held by Brown Shipley, an accepting house, for an undisclosed sum. Thereafter, the bank's name will be changed to Merrill Lynch International Bank.

The bank was originally formed in 1972 as an equally owned venture, but last year Merrill Lynch injected new capital to raise its holding to 74 per cent.

Merrill Lynch now views the bank as occupying a central role in its efforts to expand its overseas banking and brokerage interests through its subsidiary, Merrill Lynch International.

This programme has already involved it in progressive centralization of its operations in London. It is now planning to bring its Paris-based Eurobond underwriting operations to London, where its main bond trading interests are already located, to give it more centralized management supervision.

Tax loophole on plant leasing closed

A curb on tax allowances for machinery or plant leased by partnerships was announced yesterday by Mr Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

In a Commons written reply, Mr Sheldon said there were tax schemes which exploited the 100 per cent first year allowance on leasing partnerships.

Provisions would be included in the Finance Bill to ensure that tax relief on machinery or plant leased by partnerships would be available only against the rental income of the partnership, he said. The legislation would apply to such expenditure from today.

S oil price controls end it rises are held back

n Our US Economics
espondent
hington, Dec 15

l price controls in the ted States end tonight, but oil companies will not take antage of the situation to e prices before Congress President Ford have settled ir dispute this week over ther to continue the con- s.
n important Energy Bill is ly to be passed by both the ate and the House of Repre- tatives by mid-week.
resident Ford, who has con- tally opposed controls since ing office last year, has still announced if he will sign veto this particular Bill.
fr Frank Zarb, head of the leral Energy Administration, known to be urging the sident to accept the Bill, but oil companies are in the dst of an intensive campaign get the President to use his o.
About 60 per cent of domestic production is now frozen at .25 a barrel, while the re- inder is uncontrolled and lling at about $13 to $14 a rrel. The new Energy Bill ll reduce the average price of l oil sold here to $7.66 a barrel from the present level of about $8.50.

The Bill contains provisions for phasing our all price controls over the next 40 months. It also gives the President the authority to raise the average price by a maximum of 10 per cent a year.

Mr Zarb fears that if this Bill is vetoed then the Congress will send back a still tougher Bill which lacks the provision enabling the President to raise prices.

The oil companies maintain that the Bill will not only force down current prices and reduce profits, but will hold prices at levels that are too low to stimulate American output.

At the White House the President's chief economic advisers are believed to hold the view that ending controls will have a negligible economic impact. Many non-government economists fear the ending of controls would lead to a sharp surge in domestic oil prices seriously aggravating the country's inflation problems.

Government economists accept that ending price controls will mean dearer domestic oil, but believe the impact will be partly offset by the simultaneous removal of duties on imported oil.

Fiat/Innocenti talks delayed

Talks on the technical aspects of a possible takeover of Leyland-Innocenti SpA by Fiat SpA, planned with the ministries of Labour and Industry yesterday, have been delayed "for a few days", a government announcement said. No explanation was offered.

British Leyland, the parent *company put Innocenti into* liquidation last month

PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENT

The following are figures released yesterday by the CSO for the government borrowing requirement.

	£m seasonally adjusted Central government	Total public sector
1973/4	2,222	4,458
1974/5	5,123	7,925
1975/6 (Budget estimate)	7,827	9,055
1974 Q1	364	876
Q2	741	1,547
Q3	1,011	1,714
Q4	1,467	2,242
1975 Q1	1,904	2,422
Q2	2,173	2,829
Q3	2,576	2,762

How the markets moved

The Times index: 151.24 +0.31
The FT index: 363.5 +1.2

Rises

Bell A	4p to 140p	Inchcape	3p to 345p
BP	3p to 558p	Manch Liners	15p to 240p
Brit Am Tob	4p to 320p	Martin News	4p to 138p
Caravans Int	4p to 17p	Pilkington Bros	5p to 283p
Duncan W	5p to 120p	Racal Elec	5p to 227p
Eucalyptus Pulp	5p to 46p	Runciman W	4p to 125p
Hawker Sidd	6p to 340p	Tube Invest	4p to 294p

Falls

Barclays Bank	4p to 288p	Lloyds Bank	4p to 228p
Barlow Rand	7p to 255p	MIM Hldgs	9p to 215p
Berkeley Hnbro	6p to 73p	Peko Wallsend	20p to 460p
Broken Hill	10p to 715p	Roan Cons "B"	15p to 160p
Firth GM	5p to 58p	Shaw Carpets	1p to 21p
Hamersley	10p to 210p	Trans Can P	20p to 870p
Invergordon	2p to 26p	Western Mining	6p to 151p

Equities were quiet but stayed firm.
Gilt-edged securities were strong in the "medium" market.
Sterling was 20 points down at $2.0170. The "effective devaluation" rate was 30.1 per cent.
Gold was 50 cents down at $138.25 an ounce.
SDR-$ was 1.6885 on Monday, SDR-£ was 0.579499.
Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1160.5 (previous 1155.0).

Reports pages, 18 and 20

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.69	1.61
Austria Sch	38.75	36.75
Belgium Fr	84.00	81.00
Canada $	2.09	2.04
Denmark Kr	12.75	12.35
Finland Mkk	8.05	7.80
France Fr	9.20	8.90
Germany DM	5.45	5.25
Greece Dr	79.00	74.00
Hongkong $	10.35	9.95
Italy Lr	1520.00	1465.00
Japan Yn	645.00	620.00
Netherlands Gld	5.55	5.35
Norway Kr	11.50	11.15
Portugal Esc	71.00	61.00
S Africa Rd	1.88	1.76
Spain Pes	123.50	118.00
Sweden Kr	9.15	8.85
Switzerland Fr	5.45	5.25
US $	2.06	2.01
Yugoslavia Dnr	40.50	37.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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Union gives warning of action to resist £200m job cutback

By Tim Jones

A stern warning of determined union opposition to British Steel Corporation's plans to save £200m on employment costs has been given by Mr Bill Sirs, general secretary of the largest steel union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

Writing in his union's journal, he says that neither of the "crude possibilities" of massive manpower reductions or reduced earnings would be tolerated by the corporation's labour force. "It would be suicidal for the corporation to attempt such measures on their own initiative as from January 1", he writes.

According to Mr Sirs, a saving of £200m on employment costs could only be achieved by the shedding of 50,000 employees or by reducing the earnings of every one of the 200,000 labour force by £20 a week.

The editorial gives the corporation fair warning of what outcome to expect from the meeting of the union's executive which is planned for Thursday.

And since it was written by Mr Sirs, members of his union in key steelmaking areas have said that if the BSC is spoiling for a fight the challenge will be accepted.

Reminding the Government of its obligation under the social contract to maintain employment, Mr Sirs says that both sides must be involved in seeking mutually acceptable solutions

"The labour force only cannot be expected to continue to make all the sacrifices. There are other areas besides employment costs which must be considered."

He suggests that the Government should press for Community assistance in the form of grants or interest-free loans "reminding the EEC that the United Kingdom is importing about four times as much steel from the EEC than it is exporting to them".

Suggestions he makes to help the BSC to make substantial savings are: the transfer by government of a substantial part of the corporation's debt in Public Dividend Capital, or the writing off of the debt; consideration of temporary controls on steel imports; the Government keeping its side of the social contract and maintaining employment levels; the raising of capital from the sale of overseas BSC assets and surplus land and buildings in the United Kingdom.

He said the corporation should renegotiate fixed price contracts and reduce the time lag between deliveries of steel and payments. It should also employ fewer "chiefs" at executive level and postpone all anti-pollution investment.

International rescue plan drawn up for tankers

By Peter Hill

Details of a complicated package of measures designed to alleviate the crisis in the world's tanker industry will be put to an international meeting of bankers, shipowners, shipbuilders and government representatives today.

The rescue scheme has been prepared by a special working party established by the Oslo-based International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (Intertanko) and is designed to achieve what its sponsors term "equality of sacrifice".

If implemented in full (but the difficulties of achieving worldwide approval and implementation are acknowledged), experts reckon the scheme could cost around $5.000m (about £2,500m). While this is a considerable sum, economists have noted that the total mortgage debt of the tanker owners is around $35,000m and the cost of taking no action at all could be three times as much as implementing a coordinated programme of action.

Officials of Intertanko refused, however, to disclose the contents of the report, prepared by Mr Robert Horton, of BP Tankers, Mr Jorgen Jahre, the Norwegian shipowner, Mr O. R. Norland, of Hambros, and Mr L. A. Vermede, managing director of the German shipbuilding group, A. G. Weser.

Swiss connexion with banks in joint Europe float agreed

Brussels, Dec 15.—Finance ministers of European nations operating a system of floating currencies within a fixed range agreed today that the time was not yet ripe for a formal association of the Swiss franc with this system, known as the "snake".

But the ministers, meeting in Brussels, decided that the Swiss national bank should be connected with the consultation mechanism that exists between "snake" central banks. Herr Hans Apel, West German finance minister, said.

This consultation with the Swiss would be carried out three times a day, he explained. A communiqué issued after the meeting merely asserted that there was not yet unanimity among members on the "modality of associating the Swiss franc with the snake."

In these circumstances, the short communiqué continued, members decided to postpone the issue without prejudicing future solutions.

Conference participants said M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, French finance minister, again raised objections to a formal association of the Swiss franc with the snake. He expressed fears that the franc could push snake currencies up against the dollar.

France, West Germany, the Benelux and Denmark form the snake. Norway and Sweden are associated with the joint float.

Finance ministers of Norway and Sweden joined ministers at Monday's brief conference.

They will be joined later by their EEC colleagues to prepare a joint Community position for the Group of Ten finance ministers meeting on December 19 in Paris and the 20-nation interim committee of the International Monetary Fund in Jamaica early next year.—AP-Dow Jones.

CAA 134 pc phone charge rise refused

The Price Commission rejected 13 price rise notifications during November, one of them from the Civil Aviation Authority seeking approval to put up the telephone charges it makes within Heathrow Airport by 133.7 per cent.

In another 14 cases companies withdrew applications, and in 58 cases the increases sought were reduced by the Commission.

During the month, 26 distributors also agreed to make price reductions worth an estimated £7.06m, to eliminate excess profits, revealed in returns to the Commission.

In the regions, 151 smaller companies agreed to reduce prices, worth £3.91m, to eliminate excess profits, and 61 price reductions were made following complaints.

Japan relaxes control on overseas lending

The Bank of Japan yesterday allowed Japanese foreign exchange banks to increase their short-term lending overseas. The bank will also allow foreign banks in Japan to increase their conversion of foreign currencies to yen from January 5.

The actions are aimed at increasing the supply of money to Japanese affiliates overseas and to domestic companies.

Catering recovery

Turnover in the British catering industry recovered in October after a sharp fall in the previous month. Turnover was 17 per cent ahead of the same month last year. During the three months ending in October it was 18 per cent more than in the 1974 period

French trade surplus

Contrary to expectations, the French trade figures for November reveal a slight credit balance. Imports amounted to 18,544m francs (some £2,300m) for a surplus of 71m francs. The cumulated surplus since January is now 6,525m francs. Exports rose after a period of levelling off.

Tokyo deficit

Japan's trade deficit fell to $50m (about £25m) in November from $257 in October. This compared with a £32m deficit in November last year, and was the seventh consecutive monthly deficit. There was a sharp fall in imports last month.

Expansion for Swedish Hoverlloyd

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Swedish Hoverlloyd is considering expanding its cross-Channel hovercraft operation following a £6m order yesterday for a further Mountbatten class craft from British Hovercraft Corporation.

New services are likely to be opened up either in Europe or elsewhere within two or three years, Mr James Hodgson, managing director, said last night. Hoverlloyd had record traffic of around 925,000 passengers and 150,000 cars this year, and expected to make a record profit of nearly £500,000, he said.

The new craft, due for delivery in 1977, will bring a welcome fillip to BHC's Isle of Wight works, now facing competition from a new French craft in a few months' time. It is hoping also for a £10m order from British Rail to enlarge its two cross-Channel craft.

Hovercraft are now carrying 30 per cent of all cross-Channel passenger and car traffic, and with the Channel Tunnel postponed or cancelled Hoverlloyd needs a fourth craft to maintain its market share from 1977 on Mr Hodgson said.

Development Agency embarks on Scottish task

By Ronald Faux

With £200m of government money the Scottish Development Agency yesterday began work on its daunting brief of boosting the economy, creating jobs and improving the environment in Scotland.

Sir William Gray, the chairman, told a press conference in Glasgow after the first meeting of the agency's board, that despite criticism that the £200m budget was "small beer", it would be "very valuable indeed in bringing a new spirit into the Scottish economy.

"It is open to us to go back to the Secretary of State if it proves insufficient" Sir William said.

The SDA has taken over the work of the Scottish Industrial Estates Corporation, from which it inherited 7,000 new jobs presently in the pipeline, and the Small Industries Council for the Rural Areas of Scotland.

EEC seeks 'areas of opportunity'

Computer news

Since the collapse of the Unidata computer collaboration between Philips in The Netherlands, Siemens in Germany and CII in France, the European Commission in Brussels is concentrating on areas other than mainframe computers in its search for viable European data-processing programmes.

These areas include minicomputers; the peripherals and distributed-processing activity known as "peri-informatique"; software; and very large scale integration (VSLI) microcircuits.

This was indicated in Manchester last week by Mr Christopher Layton, a director in the industrial affairs directorate of the Commission. He was speaking at the opening of the new headquarters of the National Computing Centre:

"We must go for the areas of opportunity", he said, "where the market has not been pre-empted and blocked off by dominant companies".

Some elements of a strategy were apparent, in spite of the fact that we were "far from achieving the central industrial objective of creating a viable and competitive European data-processing industry".

These elements were to develop common European standards; promote the portability of software; identify areas for joint applications development; encourage the minicomputer and "peri-informatique" industry; build up a strong VLSI capability ("a key to the future of the entire European computing, telecommunication and electronics industry"); and develop a European telecommunications policy.

"By April next year", Mr Layton said, "we hope to bring together some of the strands of those emerging policies into a four-year programme for data-processing in Europe".

Britain's National Computing Centre, Mr Layton said, was beginning to play a wider role on the European stage, particularly in standardization and in joint research projects.

In identifying research projects for Community support, the Commission valued highly the NCC's contacts with computer users. "The user orientation of the NCC is a crucial element which we have to transfer to the Community level."

Mr Layton said he would like to see, at the European level, a users' association of the type just established in the United Kingdom.

This was a reference to the National Computer Users' Forum, one of two recent developments mentioned at the NCC headquarters opening by Mr David Firnberg, director of the centre.

Previously an informal grouping of various United Kingdom computer users' associations, this new forum is using the NCC as a secretariat. Its first main task is to consider the recent report on "The future of real-time technology" produced for the Department of Industry's Computer Systems and Electronics Requirements Board.

The second new body mentioned by Mr Firnberg is the National Advisory Committee on Computer Security, which recently held its first meeting in London.

The new NCC headquarters building was officially opened on December 10 by Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, as one event in a week-long programme of public and private presentations at which NCC staff and activities were exposed to outside contact.

Museum gallery opens

The new computing gallery at the Science Museum, London, will be open to the public from 10 am on Thursday next, December 18. The official opening will be by Captain Grace Hopper, USNR, the pioneer computer programmer, before an invited audience on December 17.

'Network' service

The international time-sharing services marketed by Honeywell Bull in France are to be handled by a newly created French-registered company which will come into existence at the same time as the new CII-Honeywell Bull computer company.

The services are known as Honeywell network information services.

Kenneth Owen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case against import controls

From Mr D. Lewis

Sir, Noting the chorus of requests in recent weeks for import controls from MPs and other pressure groups with vested interests, I have looked in vain for a spirited defence of our system of liberalized trade from our political leaders. That this has not been forthcoming is surely yet another commentary on the intellectual poverty of the political leadership we have in this country and which has perhaps contributed to our present economic difficulties.

In the past 25 years the world as a whole and the industrialized nations in particular have experienced the biggest explosion of wealth known in the world's history. I believe it is the longest and most sustained growth in prosperity the world has ever known and we are only now pausing for breath. All this has been carried on the back of the biggest expansion in world trade ever recorded. Surely it must be accepted that there is some inter-connexion between the two.

Trade takes place only when both parties get a benefit. Nobody in Britain buys imported goods when there are better domestically produced substitute goods available at a more competitive price. To restrict or cut off imports means that the consumer will pay more for domestically produced goods and thus suffer a real fall in the standard of living. Let no one say that the standard of living does not matter. It is this which pays for our schools and hospitals and must support our progress towards a higher level of civilization.

The road to progress for the world as a whole and for us too must lie in the direction of greater internationalism: of a freer exchange of ideas, of cultures, of goods and of services. This will be of benefit to all. The path of economic nationalism, of trade restrictions, is downwards and backwards, to an isolationist society and economic backwater fenced off from the rest of the world through the shortsighted and mistaken belief that we can thereby improve our economic lot.

Restrictions of trade by import controls runs counter to everything which we and the other leading nations of the world have been working towards for the past generation. It is contrary to the principles of Gatt, Efta, the EEC, and every other one of the agreements and institutions we have so painstakingly crea... the last world war.

To think that subst... tions of the British p... have traditionally bee... ward looking, liberal ... gressive, should wish ... road of trade restricti... first stage of an eco... cession is saddenin... other countries have ... levels of unemployme... as our own, or higl... have not adopted in... trols in a vain attempt ... them from the econo... ties of the world, and ... them have a less comp... social security system ... ize the worst effect of ... ment. Where is t... courage, the steadfas... dedication to hold t... principles upon which ... prosperity has been ... inherent in all the int... agreements to which ... subscribed? Where ... leaders with the ... courage to put t... squarely to the public ... out strongly against in... trols? Their absen... depressing pointer to ... dition of our democra...

Yours truly,
D. LEWIS,
Chelsea House,
Brentham Half Road,
London W5 1DR.
December 9.

Finding jobs for the young

From Mr M. Andrew

Sir, As consultant director to one of the organizations already making use of the "job creation" fund, I have found a very different situation to that outlined by Geoffrey Clarkson, director of Young Volunteer Force, in your columns on December 10.

Task Force North was very quickly set up with the assistance of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and the Keep Britain Tidy Group to find jobs for 300 young people in the northern national parks. The Countryside Commission and the park authorities responded at once and virtually no opposition has been encountered. The type of work varies as the nature of each park, but in all cases statutory bodies such as the Forestry Commission, Nature Conservancy Council and regional water authorities have all cooperated.

Our scheme involves a three-week demanding residential training period, including an adventure course and conservation training, and 90 per cent of those completing the course have found it a worthwhile introduction to the work situation.

Future job prospects in the national parks are, at present, unlikely but there is an increasing use of conservation skills required throughout local government and in landscape contracting and maintenance, also with the leisure industry.

The young people we employ are encouraged to continue their search for permanent employment and every assistance is given especially by providing their local careers and employment office with a confidential assessment for future employers.

I am certain that one of the main benefits of the scheme is that work is provided as quickly as possible. Long, drawn-out negotiations with national offices of voluntary organizations would have only delayed the chances of these young people to get away from home, away from the dole queue, from under their parents' feet, or away from the boredom which could start the trek to crime.

The Manpower Services Commission are to be congratulated on the speed in which they have moved and in reducing the bureaucratic process to a minimum.

We are accepting their challenge and expanding our scheme as quickly as possible to employ 1,000 young people and help improve the environment right across the north of England.

Yours faithfully,
MARK ANDREW,
Consultant Director,
Task Force North,
Tong Hall,
Bradford BD4 0RR.
December 11.

In defence of London Metal Exchange

From Mr B. B. Leeming

Sir, Mr R. Laishley's approach to buffer stock schemes and realistic pricing (December 9) appears to stem from the usual academic appraisal which is without benefit of practical experience. As a result he unwittingly stands the argument on its head. A few facts may help.

First, responsible members of the London Metal Exchange have long called for greater use of the market's facilities by the world's copper producers in the interest of mitigating excessive price fluctuation. There has been some movement in that direction.

Secondly, while it is true that London Metal Exchange copper prices have fluctuated very widely in 1974-75 so have the so-called producers' prices fixed artificially outside the market structure. These variations are not really surprising given the violent changes that have taken place in the international economic climate.

Thirdly, although the fortunes of the International Tin Agreement's buffer stock operations have experienced many vicissitudes over the years (in post-war times being run out of funds on one occasion, on another out of tin stocks), any success it may have had in its role as price stabilizer has owed a great deal to the services of the London Metal Exchange. Indispensable and intricate support or damping down operations by the buffer stock manager involving "carries", "lending", "borrowing", skilful use of "backwardations" and "contangos" can only be executed on a developed futures market such as the London Metal Exchange. Does Mr Laishley know what these operations entail or where into the scheme of thin... practical as opposed ... theoretical business of ... ing prices?

Is he also aware of ... valuable ability of the ... Metal Exchange to ... money from many qu... funds absolutely ... strings, to finance enor... wanted metal surpluse... don Metal Exchange ... stocks in this category c... are approaching 500,0... about half the entire ... surplus.

After a brief stint he... run the buffer stock for ... earlier this year I made ... ment to the effect that ... the existence of active, ... futures markets, it is ... see how an operation ... the ITC buffer stock c... successfully run. I said ... that the need is for ... broadly used markets, n... Perhaps the clearest e... ment of this is the ... known fact that the Gove... of Malaysia (by far the ... biggest tin producer) is ... investigating the feasibi... establishing a tin futures ... in Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Laishley thinks th... LME will continue to ... role in international prici... stabilization schemes. In... will, but the strength and ... ration of this valuable, in... earning institution is in ... improved by criticism fr... informed bystanders.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE B. LEEMING,
Associate Director,
Rudolf Wolff & Co,
Knollys House,
11 Byward Street,
London, EC3,
December 11.

Chilean Government 8' Sterling Loan of 1922

MORGAN GRENFELL & CO. LIMITED hereby give n... that a Drawing of Bonds of the above Loan took place on... December 1975 attended by Mr. Keith Francis Croft Baker o... Firm of John Venn & Sons, Notary Public, when the follo... Bonds were drawn for redemption at par on 1st January 197...

33 Bonds of £100 Nominal Capital each :—Numbers

82	139	143	266	381	484	677	773	842
1243	1337	1443	1610	1687	1936	2170	2410	2697
2997	3068	3175	3321	3713	3754	3908	4287	4326
4989	5220	5357						

28 Bonds of £50 Nominal Capital each :— Numbers

5691	5813	5875	6077	6222	6325	6493	6732	6773
7003	7276	7373	7679	7912	8124	8268	8699	8700
8952	9019	9022	9063	9141	9301	9335	9463	

30 Bonds of £20 Nominal Capital each :— Numbers

9598	9718	9740	9753	9816	9943	9998	10017
10153	10295	10413	10414	10432	10619	10661	10694
10866	11042	11093	11317	11422	11429	11446	11621
12130	12409	12683					

Witness :—K. F. C. Baker, Notary Public

Each of the above Bonds when presented for re... tion must bear the coupons dated 1st July 1976 a... subsequent coupons otherwise the amount of... missing coupons will be deducted from the pri... to be repaid. Lists of current and outstanding ... bonds are available from Morgan Grenfell & ... Limited, Registrars Department, 4, Throgm... Avenue, London, EC2P 2NB.

Crown House Limited

Leaders in the field of electrical and mechanical installations for the construction and heavy engineering industries.

Interim Statement 1975

£000	6 months ended 30th September 1975	1974	Year ended 31st March 1975
Turnover	28,771	26,832	57,235
Group profit before tax	835	761	1,685
Net profit after tax and minority interests	367	341	693
Ordinary dividend	161	130	432
Retained to provide additional working capital	192	193	426

* Results steadily on course.
* Improved liquid position.
* Overseas activities expanding.
* Interim dividend raised. Maximum permitted dividend increase (10%) anticipated for 1975/76.

Patrick Edge-Partington
Chairman.

2 Lygon Place, London SW1W 0JT 15th December 1975.

THE TIMES PAST THE TIMES

The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results to appear in 1975

The final date by which entries must be received is January 5, 1976.

All entries are free but must have appeared in the pages of *The Times Business News* during 1975.

The following are the categories in which the awards will be made :

1. Annual Results
   (a) Colour or Black and White. Half page or larger, or equivalent.
   (b) Colour or Black and White. *Less* than half page or equivalent.
2. Interim Results or Preliminary Figures
   Colour or Black and White (All sizes).

Entries should take the form of art pulls mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged. Six unmounted art pulls should also be provided for the use of the judges. They should be sent to :

Advertisement and Marketing Director
The Times Awards
New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ

Presentation of the awards will be made early in 1976.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase any stock.

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KITCAT & AITKEN
9 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3AD.

HE EDITOR
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Bowater three years after the merger

m offsetting the cyclical
of Bowater's traditional
and packaging earnings,
commodity trading and
l services interests have
even more uneven than
's. Indeed, Bowater's
from paper have gone
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profits. By the follow-
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al services, with Ralli
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restructuring.

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sitions or building new

Lord Erroll of Hale, chairman of Bowater: considering future structure.

shops, with the possibility of a higher outlay if cash flow is sufficient. The company's gearing remains low and with further conversion of loan stock, interest charges have fallen from £47,846 to £11,562.

Nevertheless, Martin expects increasing costs and a slackening consumer spending to lead to difficult trading conditions this year and early returns bear this out. At 138p, the shares yield 4.4 per cent and are on a p/e ratio of 7½—so the immediate prospect is reflected in the rating.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £7.12m
Sales £44.6m (£30.3m)
Pre-tax profits £1.95m (£1.51m)
Earnings per share 18.3p (14.1p)
Dividend gross 6.01p (5.46p)

Venesta

Containing the French problem

Venesta's £8m of trading losses and write-offs in France has resulted in net losses for the year of £6.9m, bringing the group's capital base down from over £10m to £3.1m and so leaving borrowings some £16m above current limits. Borrowings themselves have not risen as steeply during the year as one might have expected; including the full £4.2m borrowed from parent company, Williams Hudson, loans and overdrafts were around £25m at the end of March against £18m a year earlier. Already profits from the sale of Keizer Venesta to Montague Meyer have reduced by £2.4m the amount shown in the balance sheet as being owed to Williams Hudson reducing the total borrowing position, if there have been no significant changes since then, to £22½m. Now the reconstructed board proposes to raise the borrowing limits to £40m, which leaves ample, even excessive, cover.

The main problem for a rescue plan is how to contain French losses. The plywood market in France, subsidized by the government, has been in turmoil for nearly a year. One subsidiary has technically ceased to be such, although presumably until the legal problems over its ownership are resolved it will be a strain on group cash flow. There have been some disposals but there is still exposure through the main French company, Luterma.

French borrowings rose from £6.2m to £6.9m last year. The United Kingdom construction materials and packaging companies, however, turned in profits of £1.3m last year as against £1.8m with packaging actually turning in a good increase. Meanwhile, the auditors qualifying the accounts on a "going concern" basis state that the dividends on the group's two classes of preference shares were paid out of capital last year. Payment in the current 12 months must obviously be in doubt.

Accounts: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £0.36m
Net assets £0.97m (£7.3m)
Borrowings £23.6m (£17.3m)
Pre-tax profit £4.5m (£3.1m)
Earnings per share 40p (8.9p)

British Northrop's shares, suspended three years ago, reopened yesterday at 33p and promptly moved up to 46p. The share price performance will be of particular interest between now and the year-end, because it will determine the price at which Mr Davoud Alliance, chairman and 59 per cent majority shareholder, may have to take up a substantial tranche of new shares. On December 31, the first £200,000 of a £500,000 loan to BN by the Department of Industry falls due for repayment.

If on that date borrowings of BN and two of its subsidiaries exceed net worth, Mr Alliance has to pay the £200,000 himself. In return he would get £200,000 worth of shares, for which he would have to pay the par value of 50p or the market price, whichever is higher. It is not possible to be precise, but at August 31, BN alone had borrowings of £1.38m, including the DoI loan, which was far above the net worth of the group as a whole of £581,000. At November 28 group borrowings were £1.6m. It seems likely that Mr Alliance will have to repay the loan himself. If the shares stay below par and his subscription price for the new shares is 50p, he will end up with a 68 per cent stake.

Herbert Morris

Whitehall is unhappy

There is a good deal more than meets the eye in the reference to the Monopolies Commission of the bid by Amalgamated Industrials for the remainder of Herbert Morris.

It seems that, under the neutral-sounding, size of assets criterion, the commission is being recommended by the Office of Fair Trading (via Mrs Shirley Williams) to apply much wider moral criteria.

Whitehall is clearly unhappy about a Bryanston Finance subsidiary (AI) making the bid while its own parent's affairs are still under official investigation. There is moreover, a feeling in official circles that, in its present troubled state, Bryanston might find it hard to justify a disinterested bid by its subsidiary for a company (Herbert Morris) whose assets and earnings seem to be conservatively valued by the bid. Net assets at book value were last stated at 160p against AI's bid of 60p a share. In short, Morris is vulnerable to stripping.

The term "against the public interest" is indeed capable of very wide interpretation, although the Monopolies Commission could easily wrap up its objections with the phrase "lack of industrial logic" in the merger.

It could argue that, as a stockholder and wholesaler of metal manufacturers, AI has little in common with a cranemaker, whose valuable export potential might be damaged by a merger.

The Office of Fair Trading could easily upset the *status quo*, too, with its argument that AI has gone from a position of material influence to one of *de facto* control over Morris, following its recent share purchase. If the Monopolies Commission agreed, that would presumably mean that AI would have to divest itself of the holding that triggered the facility bid.

Eric Wigham

Giving public employees the right to a fuller political life

Without much fuss or publicity the TUC seem at long last to be getting somewhere with their persistent efforts to persuade governments to extend the political and civil rights of public servants.

At present about 400,000 civil servants are completely or largely forbidden to take part in political activities. More than two million local government workers are not permitted to stand for election to the councils by which they are employed.

The Department of Health and Social Security planned to bar its employees from serving on the new health service areas and regional authorities.

It is clearly undesirable that these millions of citizens, a steadily increasing proportion of the population, should be prevented from playing their full part in the life of the community, unless the reasons to justify the bans are compelling. The unions concerned have been arguing for years that the reasons for such sweeping restrictions are not compelling.

Practically all civil servants from the executive level upwards are forbidden altogether to take part in politics. Below them is an intermediate category, including clerks and typists, the members of which have a strictly limited political freedom. They may be members of ward committees and canvass, but not speak at meetings or do anything else which will bring them into the public eye, particularly if their work brings them into direct contact with the public.

Complete political freedom is reserved for under-dogs on the messenger and cleaner levels. The TUC have not been asking for a political Civil Service, such as exists in some other countries, but argue that the ban should be limited to those who have some part in the shaping of policy.

The 1973 Trades Union Congress passed a motion calling for an end to the political restrictions, so that when Labour was returned to power last year the TUC were already empowered to take action and had consulted their Civil Service unions.

The unions said that the intermediate category should be abolished altogether and that restrictions on higher grades should apply only to those involved in formulating government policy. The joint Whitley Council, they suggested, should draw up a code of practice on political activities and settle which groups of senior civil servants should be under restriction.

So the TUC general council wrote to the Prime Minister about it in the summer of last year. His first reply was that the present rules were a reasonable compromise between the need to treat civil servants like other members of the community and the need to maintain public confidence in the impartiality of the service.

However, the TUC renewed their pressure and eventually Mr Wilson thought better of it and agreed that the possibility of changes in the rules should be discussed by the Whitley Council. Some minor concessions have been made, but they have done little to satisfy the unions who asked for a special committee of inquiry, such as that which drew up the present rules in the late 1940s.

Further action was delayed when the Civil Service Department suggested that the question might be dealt with by the Salmon Royal Commission on the Standards of Conduct in Public Life. Both sides gave evidence to the commission, but later Lord Salmon said that it had decided that it would not deal with the matter in its report.

The commission's job was to look at corruption and it did not regard political activity as necessarily coming within that area.

Sir Douglas Allen, official head of the Home Civil Service, hinted in his evidence to the commission that he would be prepared to make representations to the Prime Minister about setting up a committee of inquiry, and this is now the probable outcome.

The staff side of the Whitley Council are proposing that a civil servant should notify his department if he wants to take part in political activity and if turned down should have a right of appeal. In most cases, they contend, civil servants can be relied upon to use their discretion.

The controversy in the health service arose when it became known that the department was about to circulate a memorandum debarring employees from serving on any regional or area health authority, though they would be allowed to serve on a community health council or similar body.

The TUC protested to Mrs Barbara Castle and elicited a concession that employees should be allowed to sit on area, but not regional, authorities. The TUC have merely "noted" her decision. They have not got all they wanted, but seem inclined to let the matter rest for the time being.

The local government problem goes back to the 1933 Local Government Act, which debarred any employee from standing for election to his own council, though he can stand for any other for which he is eligible. The new two-tier local government structure has made it more likely that he will be eligible for another council.

One exception to the ban is that teachers can sit on education committees. Curiously enough, many civil servants, though debarred from political activity, have managed to become members of local councils.

It seems ridiculous to suggest that a dustman or clerk might find any serious conflict between his public duty as a member of a council and his private interest as an employee. When dealing with pay and conditions he would be expected, like others affected by council decisions, to declare his interest and refrain from voting. A lavatory attendant is less likely to find himself in a difficult position than a building contractor.

No change in the position was made in the 1972 Conservative Local Government Act, chiefly because of total opposition from the main local authority associations, though even then the Government was sympathetic and promised to reexamine the problem after the new authorities had settled down.

The present Government a year ago accepted the need for a change, perhaps excluding chief officers and their deputies and some other officers. But here again there was delay, because the Salmon commission is dealing with local authorities.

The commission is not expected to report before the middle of next year, but this afternoon the TUC local government committee will begin discussions with Department of Environment officers on the details of possible changes, so that there may not be long to wait for relaxation of the ban.

The limitations on the activities of public employees are, strangely out of date at a time when industrial democracy is in the air. The TUC local government committee is pressing Mr Anthony Crosland, Secretary for the Environment not merely to remove the election disqualification but to give the workers direct representation on council committees and subcommittees and on managing and governing bodies of schools and colleges.

Some unions concerned, for instance the National and Local Government Officers' Association, contend that this does not go far enough and that unions should be represented on the full councils.

It has been objected that this would give trade unionists two votes, one as an employee and one as an ordinary citizen. It is a different question, however, from giving them the right to stand for public election.

Difficult harvests, combined with the higher prices of imports, have focused attention on the shortcomings of Comecon's agricultural industries

The eastern block sets its sights on food self-sufficiency

Made more urgent by the one-third shortfall in the Soviet grain harvest, Moscow's emphasis on raising agricultural output in the 1976-80 five-year plan period, published over the weekend, confirms the new Comecon trend of trying to reduce or dispense with the need for food imports—while raising popular morale through greater supplies of food and especially of meat.

The plan calls for regular grain harvests close to the 220 million tons record and promises straight increases in mechanization. But its main emphasis is for raising fodder acreages and the output of enriched animal feed to allow meat supplies to rise by more than a half.

Difficult harvests throughout the communist countries of Eastern Europe have combined with large increases in the price of imported chemicals, fodder and food to show up the ills of under-investment in agriculture and food processing, chronic wastage in the gathering and storage of crops, and the inefficiencies of the state trading network.

The results have had a sombre effect on the population's mood and both emergency measures and long-term plans show the communist leadership's concern.

Czechoslovakia has made self-sufficiency in food supplies the basic aim of its agricultural policies for the 1976-80 five-year plan period, and Yugoslavia intends to be entirely self-sufficient in food by the end of the decade. Belgrade has called for a minimum wheat harvest almost 50 per cent higher than this year, and two to threefold increases in the yield of certain other crops.

In his harvest day speech, Dr Gustav Husak, the Czechoslovak party leader, likened grain management in many places in the country to "a shambles" and reminded his listeners that throughout the world grain had become "a valuable thing paid for in gold".

Czechoslovakia imports up to 1·5 million tons of grain, much of it from the Soviet Union, in normal years, as well as about 100,000 tons of vegetables and 350,000 tons of fruit. The drive for self-sufficiency has been made more urgent by Russia becoming an insecure grain source as well as by Romania and Bulgaria pressing for higher prices for the fruit and vegetables they sell to their Comecon partners.

References by Dr Husak and other leaders to the heavy burden which food imports place on the country's foreign trade balance have helped to generate rumours of impending increases in food prices. Dr Husak, whose policy since he replaced Mr Dubcek in April, 1969, has been to offer his people consumer benefits as compensation for their loss of political rights, felt personally obliged to counter these rumours in a speech at the Kladno steel works in November.

Romania's party leadership has held a whole series of meetings since late summer devoted to the need to improve food supplies, and measures to the same effect were rushed through sessions of both the Party Executive Committee and the Grand National Assembly last month. Shortages of sugar, meat, vegetables and other items have generated much resentment.

Mr Edward Gierek, Polish leader: a warning of price increases on the way.

Dr Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia: food imports imposing a heavy burden on the country's trade balance.

Apart from denouncing people who hoard food, President Ceausescu has sought to reinforce the impression of trying to improve matters by personally inspecting Bucharest food stores and market stalls.

Last summer's floods have had a disastrous effect on the harvest, but Romania's troubles extend far beyond such factors. the country has failed by large margins to fulfil its agricultural plans for each of the past five years. At the same time, with agricultural exports a prime source of the hard currency Romania desperately needs, there is limited room for diverting produce to the home market.

Lack of sufficient investment in machinery and slowness in adopting modern methods keep Romanian agriculture several times less efficient in its use of manpower than farms not just in the West but in more advanced East European countries, too. Plans now promulgated by the leadership call for big advances, especially in animal husbandry, but observers fear that the results may once again be less brilliant than the proclaimed intentions.

Hungary, next door, has made a success of its agriculture in recent years. Nevertheless it is now having to introduce food price increases that amount to something of a political gamble. Sugar went up by an average of 50 per cent on the first of this month, with bakeries and catering establishments allowed proportionate price increases on cakes and other items containing sugar.

Meat price increases averaging 32 to 33 per cent have been announced for July, 1976. Further food price increases, especially on the open market, are expected.

The partial withdrawal of import price subsidies will push up the price of fertilizers, pesticides and fodder by up to 25 per cent on January 1, with increases in state procurement prices for next year's crop offering only partial compensation to collective farmers and the country's huge army of private plot farmers.

The fate of food prices was the most newsworthy item for ordinary Poles to come out of last week's seventh party congress in Warsaw. The food-price freeze imposed after the December, 1970, workers' riots has been annually extended since, but pressures on Mr Gierek to abolish it have been building up from his economists.

He effectively did so by making no mention of the food price freeze in his opening speech to the congress, when he talked instead of the need to reestablish "market equilibrium" and about "objectively justified" price increases on the way, due to external factors and higher costs at home in both industry and agriculture.

Poles have grown to have more money than their country has food or goods to sell them, especially this year. The 1·5 to 2 million tons of grain Poland meant to buy from Russia are having to be purchased elsewhere and for hard currency.

The home harvest fell short of expectations by another 2 million tons and pigs—the main source of meat—were down by a million last summer owing to fodder problems and the decline in the value of earlier farming incentives.

The plight of Polish agriculture and the food shortages which led to scuffles with the militia in front of ill-stocked shops, were main items in Mr Gierek's speeches at public meetings during a tense pre-congress campaign. The leadership has made efforts to fill shops partly by reducing exports, but it has also promised to increase food production by 35 per cent by 1980.

Paul Neuburg

Business Diary: 'Batman and Robin' • Ship shapes

rd Ryder, chairman of the
nal Enterprise Board, has
ed a two-man team to be
watchdogs on British Ley-
matters and his choice is
g some eyebrows within
company. They are an
ual combination — Mike
er, a 53-year-old former
Ford, British Leyland
ier and James Ensor, a
ar-old journalist.
ever joined the NEB last
from the top job in
r-Trimph's product plan-
Before that he ran the
pular group central ro-
planning department
h, rightly—or wrongly,
felt by many Leyland man-
s to be a stifling influence.
has a reputation as a fastid-
man with a love of detail.
nsor, who joins the board
January 1, has for eight
s been motor industry
espondent of the *Financial*
es, in which period he has
le as many enemies as
nds in the industry, as any
nalist of independent judg-
it might be expected to do.
ast night we asked him
t he brought to the new
"Lord Ryder readily
lits that he knows little
ut the motor industry.
reas I have knocked about
motor world pretty extensi-
y in recent years and he
ms to think that that equips
to make a useful contribu-
n," he said.
suppose you could say that
ke Carver knows the British
yland scene pretty well, hav-
worked for them, and I
all be able to relate that to
e wider motor industry
ene."
The duo—known in Leyland
"Batman and Robin"—will monitor British Leyland's performance against the three-monthly plans submitted to the NEB. It will be on the basis of their reports that the NEB will be doling out the next instalment of public money due in May-June.

At the helm

While there might have been one or two grumbles from merchant shipbuilders about Eric Varley's choice of Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin and Graham Day as chairman and chief executive of British Shipbuilders, the news is better than many companies were expecting.

Day, in particular, comes as no shock. He has been favourite for the hot seat ever since nationalization hove into view with the return of Labour to government last year.

He has plenty of experience both in dealing with government and with other shipbuilders, becoming chairman of Merseyside's Cammell Laird—he was brought over from a legal post with Canadian Pacific—after the 1971 rescue operation mounted by the former Industrial Reorganization Corporation.

The Government has held a 50 per cent interest in the company jointly with the Laird Group, but since his appointment Cammell's accumulated losses have been reduced from about £9.7m to under £4.4m as a result of profits over the period to the end of last year of more than £5.25m.

Day's contract with Cammell was due to expire in August next year any way, and although he has been regarded by many as the man most likely to be chosen for the chief executive's role in the nationalized body, until very recently he was planning to return to Canada where he was born.

There are signs that the civil servants who were canvassing contenders for the post wanted to impose their own ideas on how the chief executive should run the operation and Day privately expressed reservations about his ability to do the job properly without the flexibility that he demands. He appears to have won.

Sir Anthony, at present Controller of the Navy and Third Sea Lord, should also be a welcome appointment, particularly as much of his work over the past five years has been concerned with practicalities rather than with the theory of defence. Under his management the RN's first new Type 42 destroyer and the first three Type 21 frigates have been commissioned.

He has indeed been responsible for placing Admiralty orders worth on average £400m a year.

Sir Anthony was once superintendent of the Devonport Dockyard, where he was responsible for 16,000 people working on ship repairs and refits, and for dealing with 19 trade unions.

One of his first appointments at the organizing committee's offices—it is sharing premises with the National Enterprise Board—will undoubtedly be with executives of warship builders Vosper Thornycroft and Yarrow (Shipbuilders), who last week launched a campaign for a better deal within the nationalized undertaking.

Both Sir Anthony and Day face an uphill battle to establish British Shipbuilders at a time when the world shipbuilding industry is faced with huge overcapacity and a lack of orders. They should be under steam by next October.

Fair deal

The board of F International meets at its headquarters at Chesham, Buckinghamshire, today to amend company employment policy in the light of the Sex Discrimination Act. Somewhat unusually, they want to make it clear that men will get as fair a deal as women, rather than the other way around.

F International, a computer software consultancy, was formed 12 years ago by Steve Shirley after she left her job as an ICL software designer to have a baby.

She saw that there was no mechanism to help a computer woman pick up the threads of her career if she were away from the business for more than a month or two. Similarly, there wasn't much scope to keep one's hand in by working part-time.

Guessing that there must be many young wives and mothers facing the same problem, she began the company using such women as part-time consultants. Board minute number one said that the idea of the venture was to employ women with children.

Six years later, this minute was modified in the light of experience to read "women with dependents". There had been lots of applications from single women with aged relatives.

Now, along comes the Sex Discrimination Act, which applies just as much to men as to women. Today's meeting of the F International board will be mulling over a third version of the minute, which will probably refer to "people with dependents unable to work in a conventional atmosphere".

This, Mrs Shirley says, should not rank as a discriminatory agreement. On the other hand, it should not mark any break with the original objectives of the group, since most of the "people" who fit the bill will be women anyway.

The group has a panel of 300 programmers, of whom three are male; 40 systems analysts, of whom a third are male, and 25 project managers, all of them women.

Barnes' brief

Ken Barnes is to take over as Michael Foot's Permanent Secretary at the Department of Employment when Sir Conrad Heron retires in January.

Barnes, who is 53, presumably shares his minister's delight in good English, having taken a first in it at the start of the war. After war service he returned to Oxford and took another first in PPE.

He is one of the three deputy secretaries, along with Donald Derx and Frank Lawton. For some time he has been specializing in manpower, covering the likes of the temporary unemployment subsidy and work creation. He has also been heavily involved in Foot's trade union and labour relations amendment proposals.

THE PHOENIX TIMBER COMPANY LIMITED

INTERIM STATEMENT—Six Months to 30th September 1975
Unaudited Group Profit—amounts expressed in thousands of pounds

	Six months to 30.9.75	Six months to 31.3.75	Six months to 30.9.74	Year to 31.3.75
Sales to external customers ..	15,058	14,565	16,321	30,886
Group Profit subject to items below	615	720	1,003	1,223
Less: Financial Charges	592	850	612	1,462
Profit (Loss) Before Tax	23	(130)	391	261
Less: Deferred Corporation Tax at 52%	12	(57)	203	146
Profit (Loss) After Tax* ..	11	(73)	188	115
Less: Preference Dividend ..	2	1	2	3
Earnings applicable to Ordinary Shares	9	(74)	186	112
Earnings per Ordinary Share	0.3p	—	6.5p	3.9p
*Before charging extraordinary items	65			575

The Group results for the first half of the current year, though not satisfactory, show an improvement compared with the loss incurred in the preceding half-year to 31st March, 1975.

The major part of the £65,000 noted as extraordinary items chargeable in the half-year to the 30th September, 1975, represents unrealised exchange losses; on the other hand, the parent company has recently renegotiated the terms of the lease of its Head Office at Rainham which has produced a realised capital gain of approximately £200,000 after providing for tax.

Activity in our selling markets has increased in recent months and with prices of our main trading commodities recovering we foresee some improvement in profit margins during the second half-year. In the expectation that the present improvement in trading conditions will continue, the Board considers the results for the full year to 31st March, 1976, will justify the maintenance of the net dividend of 3.2p per share paid in respect of 1974-75.

An interim ordinary dividend of 1.5p per ordinary share of 25p has today been declared in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1976, payable on 6th February, 1976, to shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 12th January, 1976.

Pinnacle House, Manor Way, New Road, Rainham, Essex RM13 8RJ. 11th December 1975

Prop Acc Units 90.9 100.1 .. | Prop Dist Units 93.9 100.7 .. | month (d) Valued monthly.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Capital & Counties brutal write-offs

Ahead of news from MEPC later this week Capital & Counties Property Group presents a *mixed bag of profits and* losses for the six months to September 30 less than a month after its delayed figures for the year to last March.

On the revenue account, half-time results show a pre-tax total increased from £2.81m to £3.13m. After tax and other items the attributable profit came *to £377,000 against* £461,000. But the property slump meant that disposals by the group, which is trying to reduce its borrowings (interests cost for the latest half went up from £5.87m to £6.4m) left a *capital loss of £1.13m, and* further losses of around £1.9m are forecast. On revenue account, the directors say that it is unlikely that a "significant" profit will be made for the year as a whole. Once again, there is no interim dividend. Even so, the shares hardened 1p to 14½p.

Some progress is being made towards getting the group in good trim. Current problems are underlined with the £1.3m loss on realized capital profit and loss account, for this is after charging heavy costs of completing financial retrenchment.

Sir Richard Thompson, chairman, reports that Union Corporation (it owns 24.6 per cent of the equity) has indicated it will not be exercising its option to call for the rights issue referred to in the last report *of the directors.*

SUTCLIFFE SPEAKMAN & CO. LTD.

The unaudited Group results for the half year ended 30th September, 1975

	Half year ended 30th Sept. 1975	Half year ended 30th Sept. 1974	Year ended 31st March 1975
	£	£	£
Turnover	4,211,000	2,083,000	5,046,000
Profit before taxation	209,000	161,000	346,000
Profit after taxation and minority interests	98,000	77,000	165,000
Dividends	24,000	22,000	45,000
Attributable to each Ordinary Share*			
Earnings	4.4p	3.5p	7.4p
Dividends	1.083p	0.9845p	2.012p

* Calculated on present issued capital of 2,226,424 Ordinary Shares.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend for the current year of 1.083p per Ordinary Share. This will be paid on 10th February, 1976 to shareholders registered on 12th January, 1976.

In the Engineering Division profit margins were eroded by cost inflation and strong foreign competition for export business. The increase in overall profit was attainable only by achieving a vastly increased turnover.

The Carbon Division suffered a fall in demand in the home market but was able to maintain its position by increased exports.

Stock markets

Diesel boom helps some engineers

With an economic package from the Government expected at any time, the London stock market was in subdued mood yesterday.

A firm start was not maintained as buyers preferred to stay away and with sellers also in short supply most activity centred on companies reporting results. The Chrysler situation was largely discounted.

At the closing calculation, the *FT* Index was back at its 2 pm level, after a mid-afternoon dip, gaining 1.2 to 363.5.

Some of the best features of the day were provided by the engineering sector. Here Weyburn were hoisted to a new "high" for the year of 410p, up 10p, while the day's second most active stock, **Whessoe**, added 3p to 45p on recovery hopes, **Hawker Siddeley** were 6p better at 340p and **Tube Investments** firmed 4p to 294p.

But **GM Firth** shed 5p to 58p after interim results not to the market's liking.

Motors saw a fair bit of action with **Caravans International** putting on 4p to 17p after half-time *profits* and both **Lucas** 172p and **Associated Engineering** 74p ending a point or so firmer.

Rothman International's shares rose a further ½p to 30p, still doing well against the market on hopes of good profits from sales to Arabs, and a German price increase. But some observers think Rothmans is losing its market share in the United Kingdom and Germany and suggest a switch into Imps where the yield is better.

The last two have had good results recently and are additionally attractive because of their involvement in the diesel engine boom. The problems at **BLMC** had the shares off a point to 29p while **Lex Service** shaded firmer at 24p after announcing an agreement with Volvo.

The "blue chips" generally finished on the plus side but in many cases were below their best. Typical were **British** *American Tobacco 320p and* **ICI** 324p, both 3p better and **Unilever** 412p and **Courtaulds** 143p, improvements of 2p. **Beechams** held on to 336p.

There was not much joy in shipping where **Lovells** lost 10p to 90p after results and **Sheaf Steam** stayed on offer and shed 6p to 74p.

Manchester Liners *proved a* bright exception by gaining 15p to 240p.

The property pitch enjoyed a *rather* better *day than some* others. Encouraged by results from **Crown House**, a penny better at 23p, and **Capital & Counties**, also a penny to the good, at 14½p, most shares were firm under the lead of **MEPC**, which reports later in the week *and added 2p to 68p.*

Banks moved narrowly for most of the session but some late weakness saw **Barclays** 288p and **Lloyds** 228p, lose 4p apiece. **Hongkong & Shanghai** was again active though unchanged at 300p.

Still drawing strength from recent results were **International Computers**, 3p better at 100p, and **Racal Electronics** which put on 5p to 227p.

Other good spots included **AA Asphalt**, 5p better to 178p the "new" gained 5p to 78p—on favourable comment, **Hanson Trust**, 3p to 123p, and **ATV** where the chairman announced a new series for syndication and the "A" shares gained 2p to 71p.

Others with results this week shaded firmer. These included **Johnson-Richards Tiles** 195p, **Distillers** 127p, **Marley** 93p and **Trafalgar House** at 106½p.

As the result of the Australian election became apparent in recent days, mining shares there were strong. But yesterday they were hit by profit-taking with **MIM** losing 9p to 215p, **Peko Wallsend** 20p to 460p and **Western Mining** 6p to 151p. There were 25p losses elsewhere.

Oils were quiet and, where changed, *only by narrow* amounts. **BP** added 3p to 558p and **Shell** 2p to 364p.

British Northrop shares returned to the market after a long suspension and ended at 46p after 33p, while **Marks & Spencer** proved again to be a *soft spot* shedding 2p to 95p.

Results from **Martin the Newsagent** firmed the shares 4p to 138p, but both **Sutcliffe, Speakman** 39p and **Beechwood Construction** 21p were unmoved by statements. **Alexander Russell** were sufficiently encouraged by *half-time profits* to gain 3p to 38p.

Grand Metropolitan climbed 2½p to 76p. It announced a rights issue of one share at 50p for every seven at the beginning of October. The buying reflects not the impending profits, probably just over £39m against a forecast £38m—plus, but brokers' estimates of the current year to next September which range from £47m to £50m.

The strength of "mediums" was the main feature in the gilt-edged market yesterday. There were no new factors helping them, *but they managed to* maintain the momentum of last week and put on ¾ point.

"Shorts" were also active and remained very firm. Price rises were commonly of 3/16 or ¼ point.

The coupon rate on the "yearling" issue today is expected to be 11¾ per cent or 11½ per cent at an issue price of 99 15/16.

"Longs", by contrast, were drab and *subdued. After* being ¼ point down at one stage they were eventually ⅛ point off on the day.

Equity **turnover** on December 12 was £49.55m (11,472 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Whessoe, Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, BP, Thorn ordinary, Marks & Spencer, British American Tobacco, British Leyland, Glaxo, Letraset, Slater Walker, Hanson Trust and Caravans International.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Beechwood Cons (10p) Int	0.50	0.42	3/2	—	1.52
Caffyns (10p) Int	1.7	1.4	23/1	—	4.8
Caravans Int (20p) Fin	Nil	Nil	—	0.2	0.7
Capital & Counties (25p) Int	Nil	0.73	—	—	2.2†
City of Dublin Bank Fin	1.12	1.12	20/2	2.0	2.0
Crown House (10p) Int	0.65	0.52	21/2	—	1.7†
G. M. Firth (10p) Int	2.0	2.0	—	—	5.0
Martin the Nwsgnt (25p) Fin	2.09	2.00	—	3.90	3.65
Robert Moss (10p) Int	1.1	1.0	—	—	2.04†
Ronksley Inv (1.6p) Fin	0.10	0.1p	13/2	0.10	0.1
Alex Russell (10p) Int	1.03	0.9	30/1	—	1.67
Sutcliffe, Speak (25p) Int	1.08	0.98†	10/2	—	2.01†
Wearra Group (10p) Fin	0.35	0.48	—	0.35	0.96

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. † Adjusted for scrip.

Caravans Int re-shaping begins to pay off

Caravans International returned *to* trading profits in the year to last August as forecast but extraordinary items meant that there was a net loss. Against a net profit of £20,000 the loss was £762,000 with the items amounting to £782,000. These reflected economy measures. *Sales* rose from £36.7m to £39.7m, helping pre-tax profits from £549,000 to £1.25m. This outcome was better *than feared,* and the shares rose 3½p to 16½p. But there is again no final dividend so the total dividend is 0.31p gross against *1.04p*. Reorganization should assist profits this year and the full year should be "markedly" better than the past one.

Motor Rail suspended

The Stock Exchange yesterday temporarily suspended the listing of the *ordinary* shares of Motor Rail pending the publication of the accounts for the year to August 31, 1974. Motor Rail's board expressed its regret that the accounts had not yet been published, but these should be posted to shareholders by December 20. If so the suspension could be lifted on December 22.

A preliminary announcement in respect of the accounts will be made today.

Cavenham-Grand Union

Already holding 3.2m common shares of Grand Union Co, some 50.3 per cent, Cavenham *(USA) Inc said* in New York that about 1.46m Grand Union has been tendered under its exchange offer. Cavenham pointed out that it could accept less than 1.9m Grand Union under the offer without supplementing information in its prospectus if that lower number of shares (with the 50.3 per cent owned) was enough to allow Cavenham and Grand Union to file consolidated federal income tax returns.

On the basis of the number of Grand Union shares now outstanding, tax consolidation could be *achieved if 1.77m* Grand Union were tendered. But if employee stock options were exercised, some 1.87m *would have to be* rendered.

Linfood Holdings

Linfood Holdings, formed by the merger of Associated Food Holdings and Thomas Linnell, reports pre-tax profits of £1.49m for the 28 weeks ended November 8. *Sales were £99.2m. In its* first accounting period to April 26, 1975, the group reported pre-tax profits of £2.27m, on *sales of £163m. The group* says it is not considered meaningful to produce comparative figures for the 28 weeks to November 1974. The interim dividend is 6.16p gross, while earnings a share are 9.3p, against 17.8p on the old capital.

RHP stays cautious

Though there are signs of an uptrend, Mr G. W. Barlow, chairman of RHP (ball, roller and transmission bearings), thinks that earnings for the year to October 3, 1976, are unlikely to match the £5.85m before tax of the year before. The formal agreed offer for MTE has been sent out. The ordinary offer closes on January 7.

No UK car revival yet

Mr Bernard Scott, chairman of Lucas Industries, told the annual meeting that there were signs of a revival in the world car industry market, but not yet in Britain. *Cars would remain* the "big hole" in the company's business, he said. Lucas's profit rate at home was much *less than abroad, and efforts* must be redoubled to improve it.

Seafield Gentex loss

Into loss at half-time, Seafield Gentex, one of the largest Irish textile groups, ended heavily in *the red in the year to last September* with a pre-tax loss of £233,000 compared with a profit of £1.09m. Sales fell from £18.2m to £10.29m. Earnings a share showed a deficit of 2.7p against earnings of 19.7p. Shareholders get no dividend, against 5p gross.

G. M. Firth hopeful after interim slump

Pre-tax profits of G. M. Firth (Metals), the Bradford-based steel stockist and merchant, crashed from £505,000 to £20,000 in the first six months to September 30 and the shares weakened on the news. Sales slumped from £5.73m to £2.66m, but the interim dividend is 2p again. In spite of the huge downturn, Mr G. M. Leadbeater, chairman, says comfort can be drawn from the avoidance of loss.

He hopes that the first half year *coincided* "*with the* bottom of a steel industry slump". Earnings a share dived from 8.9p to 0.3p.

Deutsche Bank plans Stock Exchange listing

The Deutsche Bank, West Germany's largest commercial bank, plans to get its shares listed in London next year, and it will make its existing London office a full branch on January 15, *writes Peter Norman from Bonn.* The bank expects net earnings this year to be appreciably higher than the DM234m (£46.5m) of last year. Herr Franz-Heinrich Ulrich, chief executive, said in Düsseldorf that *operating* profits during the first 10 months of this year were 9.8 per cent up on a comparative basis. He said earnings from busines done on the bank's own account, a series of extraordinary gains, and a higher valuation of the banks investment portfolio will also contribute to better results.

Common Bros buy 50 pc of Gomba Shipping

Agreement has been reached between Common Brothers, the Newcastle-based international shipping group and Mr A. J. Shamji for Common to acquire, for £500,000 cash, a 50 per cent shareholding in Gomba Shipping (Jersey). Gomba, which will have a paid-up share capital of £1m, is one of several companies *established* by Mr Shamji who also owns ships trading between the United Kingdom and the Continent.

The new company has ordered six dry-cargo vessels of about 3,700 tonnes dwt. The first is due for delivery at the end of 1976. The *ships are to* be built by Mazagon Dock in Bombay, a state-controlled yard which enjoys a high reputation for the building of Leander Class Frigates for the Indian Navy.

Caffyns caution

Caffyns, the garage company, reports a 45 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £487,000 for the half year to September 30. Sales rose from £10.2m to £12.5m, but the board says that on the results of the first two months of this half the turnover increase will not be maintained. It points out that the group was helped by British Leyland incentive schemes, and depreciation of used cars and hire cars was "exceptionally" low.

Crown House buoyant

A rise in pre-tax profits from £736,000 to £819,000 is reported by Crown House (engineering, glassware and property investment) for the six months to September 30. Sales climbed from £28.83m to £28.8m. The interim dividend goes up from *0.78p to 1p* gross to reduce disparity, but as a mark of confidence the board says the final will reflect the maximum increase allowed.

Commodities

COPPER.—Wire bars fell [illegible] on Friday's close [illegible] month position [illegible] amount. Last week's stock [illegible] tonnes was in line with [illegible] Afternoon.—Cash wire bar [illegible] a metric ton; three months £580.50-81.00. Sales [illegible] (mainly carries). Cash cathodes £548.50-49.00; three months [illegible] Sales, 475 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash wire bars [illegible] three months, [illegible] Settlement, £560.50. Sales, [illegible] (mainly carries). Cash cathodes [illegible] three months, [illegible] Settlement, £548.50. Sales [illegible] tons (mainly carries).

SILVER was 2.50p to [illegible] on the LME positions.—Bullion fixing levels.—Spot, 196[illegible] ounce (United States cents [illegible]; three months, 201.30p; six months, 207.70p; one year, 220.80p (428.3c). LME. Afternoon.—Cash [illegible] three months, 19[illegible] seven months, 208-08.5p. [illegible] lots of 10,000 troy oz. Morning.—Cash, 197-97.[illegible] months, 202.5-02.8p; seven months, 210.5-11.00p. Settlement. Sales, 37 lots.

TIN rose by £6.50 per [illegible] standard cash but the [illegible] position was 50p down o[illegible] close.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,[illegible] a metric ton; three months, £3,1[illegible]. Sales, 70 tons [illegible] Cash, £3,[illegible] three months, £3,145-50. Sales, nil tons. Standard cash, £3,0[illegible] months, £3,15[illegible]-56. Settlement [illegible] Sales, 365 tons. High grade [illegible] three months, [illegible] Settlement, £3,0[illegible]. Sales [illegible] Singapore tin ex-works, $M[illegible]

LEAD was £2 to £1.87 [illegible] noon.—Cash, £162.50-62.7[illegible] ton; three months, £16[illegible] Sales, 2,525 tons. Morning [illegible] £165.50-65.75; three months [illegible] 71.75. Settlement, £165.[illegible] 3,000 tons.

ZINC was quiet and slightly [illegible] Afternoon: Cash, £338.5[illegible] metric ton; three months, £[illegible] Sales, 1,475 tons (mainly [illegible] Morning: Cash, £340.50-4[illegible] months, £350.50-51.[illegible] £310.75. Sales, 5,100 tons (mainly carries). Producers' price, [illegible] metric ton. All afternoon [illegible] are unofficial.

PLATINUM was 15p down [illegible] at £70.65 ($142.50) a troy [illegible]

RUBBER was about steady [illegible] 36.45p per kilo; Feb, 36.[illegible] Jan-March, 36.90-37.00p; [illegible] 38.25-38.35p; July-Sept, 39.[illegible] Oct-Dec, 40.40-20.50p; [illegible] 41.30-41.55p; April-June, [illegible] 42.30p; July-Sept, [illegible] Sales: 14 lots at 5 tonnes; [illegible] tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were [illegible] Spot, 35.25-36.25; Cifs, Jan, [illegible] 35.15; Feb, 34.60-35.00.

COFFEE: Robusta futures were steady.

ROBUSTAS.—Jan, £767-768 a ton; March, £774-75; May, [illegible] July, £787-788; Sept, £790-[illegible] £793-795; Jan, £795-798. S[illegible] lots including 9 options.

ARABICAS were dull.—Dec [illegible] per 50 kilos; Feb, $92.[illegible] April, $94.20-94.40; June [illegible] 94.60; Aug, $95.50-96.0[illegible] $95.50-96.00; Dec, $95.[illegible] Sales, 7 lots.

COCOA futures retreated from highs under long liquidation and profit taking.—Dec, £725-2[illegible] p[illegible] Jan, March, £690-91; May, [illegible] July, £657-57.5; Sept, £64[illegible] £631-35; March, £631-32. Sales [illegible] lots. ICO prices: daily 60.48c; [illegible] average, 56.53c; 22-day 55.90c (US cents per lb).

Continued on [illegible]

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

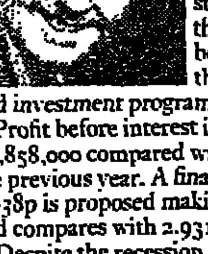
$ STRAIGHTS	Bid
AIDC 10¾ 1981	103
Air France 9¼ 1982	101½
Airlease 8¾ 1988	87
ARDB 9¾ 1980	100¼
Ashland 8 1987	[illegible]
Barclays Bank 9¾ 1982	[illegible]
BFCE 9 1982	100½
Broken Hill Prop 9¼ 1981	101¼
British Steel Corp 8⅞ 1989	[illegible]
Burlington 7⅞ 1987	[illegible]
Carrier 8 1987	[illegible]
CECA 8¾ 1982	[illegible]
Chevron 7 1980	97
Conoco 7 1980	[illegible]
Conoco 8 1980	[illegible]
Cons Foods 7½ 1991	86½
CSR 9½ 1980	100
Curacao Tokyo 8⅞ 1988	[illegible]
Curacao Tokyo 10¼ 1981	101
Cutler Hammer 8 1987	[illegible]
Dana 8 1987	90
Denmark Kingdom 7½ 1990	84
DSM 9¼ 1980	100½
EIB 9 1980	101
EIB 9½ 1985	100½
Escom 9¼ 1989	90
Escom 10¾ 1983	99¼
Escom Floating Rate 1982	97
First Chicago 7 1980	[illegible]
GATX 8¼ 1987	[illegible]
Gould 9¾ 1985	[illegible]
Guardian Royal 8 1987	[illegible]
Gulf and Western 9½ 1980	101
ICI 7½ 1992	82
International Util 6¼ 1982	96¼
Motorola 8 1987	[illegible]
National Coal Board 8¼ 1988	86
New Zealand 9 1983	101
New Zealand 9¼ 1982	101½
Nippon Fudusan 10¼ 1980	102
Nippon Steel 9½ 1980	[illegible]
NA Rockwell 8¼ 1987	89
Occidental 10 1981	[illegible]
Ontario Hydro 9 1980	101
Pacific Lighting 8 1988	90
Pacific Lighting 9½ 1981	103
Pennwalt 8 1987	[illegible]
Ralston Purina 7¼ 1987	[illegible]
Scanraff 7½ 1990	[illegible]
Scanraff 8⅞ 1988	[illegible]
Shell 7½ 1987	[illegible]
Singer 11 1977	[illegible]
Skandinaviska 10¼ 1981	105
Standard Oil 8½ 1980	101
Standard Oil 8⅞ 1983	[illegible]
Standard Oil 8½ 1988	[illegible]
Statsforetag 9¼ 1980	100
Sybron 8 1987	[illegible]
Tenneco 7⅞ 1987	85½
Textron 7¼ 1987	86
Transocean Gulf 7½ 1980	[illegible]
Union Oil 7½ 1987	91½
Williams & Glyns 8¼ 1987	79
DM BONDS	**Bid**
CFP 8½ 1985	[illegible]
Denmark 9½ 1989	100
ICI 8½ 1982	97½
Mexico 9 1983	[illegible]
National Westminster 8 1988	93½
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8½ 1983	100
Sun Int Fin 7½ 1988	[illegible]
$ CONVERTIBLES	
AMF 5 1987	65
American Express 4¼ 1987	82¼
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1992	95
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	107
Beatrice Foods 4⅞ 1993	[illegible]
Borden 5 1992	[illegible]
Borden 6¾ 1991	101½
Broadway Hale 4¾ 1987	78
Carnation 4 1988	84
Chevron 5 1992	[illegible]
Cummins 6¼ 1986	[illegible]
Dart 4¾ 1987	82
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	115
Economic Labs 4¼ 1987	78
Federated Dept Stores 4¼ 1985	127
Ford 5 1988	77
Ford 6 1986	87
Gillette 4¾ 1987	77
Gould 5 1987	86
General Electric 4¼ 1987	84
Gulf and Western 5 1988	83
Harris 5 1987	[illegible]
Honeywell 6 1986	[illegible]
ITT 4½ 1987	[illegible]
J. Ray McDermott 4¾ 1987	115
JP Morgan 4¼ 1987	100
Nabisco 5½ 1988	[illegible]
Owens Illinois 4½ 1987	[illegible]
JC Penney 4¼ 1987	77
Revlon 4¾ 1987	[illegible]
Rank Org 4½ 1985	[illegible]
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	[illegible]
Squibb 4¼ 1987	88
Texaco 4¼ 1988	[illegible]
Union Carbide 4¼ 1982	103
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	[illegible]
Xerox Corp 5 1988	71

DM=Deutschmark issue.

Source: Kidder, Peabody Sec[illegible] London.

British precision bearings

Record earnings... steady trend of improvement continues



RHP Chairman, Mr G W Barlow, has reported that the excellent results are strong indications of the benefits now being obtained from the reorganisation and *investment* programme.

Profit before interest in 1974-75 was £6,858,000 compared with £4,257,000 in the previous year. A final dividend of 1.938p is proposed making a total of 3.128p and compares with 2.931p in 1973-74.

Despite the recession in UK and export *markets*, the heavy investment programme has been maintained with capital expenditure of £4m in the year. This will continue with the aim of expanding capacity in the sectors in which the group is strong and can sell overseas. Borrowings and stocks were held at the same low level as at the beginning of the year – a significant achievement in these inflationary times.

Mr Barlow concludes: "The world industrial markets are going through a period of recession of great severity which has reduced orders and production levels. There are now some signs of an upward trend but the rate of recovery is beyond my powers of forecasting and it seems inevitable that our earnings in the year 1975-76 will be reduced because of the recession. Fortunately the benefits of our prolonged investment programme, the strength of our management team, the intense drive for more exports and the goodwill of our employees will combine to limit the impact of the recession and place us in a very strong position to produce even better results than those achieved this year as soon as world markets recover."

G.W. Barlow.

Results for the 53 weeks to 3rd October 1975

Trading Results	1975 £000	1974 £000
Sales	63,595	52,110
Pre-Tax Profit	5,852	2,811
Profit Available for Ordinary Dividends	2,698	1,707
Ordinary Dividends	584 (19½%)	504 (17½%)
Balance Sheet	**£m**	**£m**
Fixed Assets	17.0	14.8
Current Assets – Stocks	18.4	15.3
– Debtors	12.0	11.1
– (Creditors)	(10.7)	(8.2)
– (*Short-term borrowings*)	(3.1)	(3.0)
Net Current Assets	16.6	15.2
	33.6	30.0
Financed by: Shareholders funds	22.6	20.2
Long-Term Borrowings	7.8	8.0
Deferred Tax, etc.	3.2	1.8
	11.0	9.8
	33.6	30.0

Copies of the Report are available from the Secretary, Ransome Hoffmann Pollard Limited, PO Box 7, Chelmsford, Essex.

Briefly

BEECHWOOD CONSTRUCTION

Pre-tax profit spurted 34 per cent to £235,000 in half year. Turnover up from £1.8m to £3.1m. *Dividend raised from 0.62p to* 0.77p.

PENTOS—MARSHALL MORGAN

Pentos' offer for Marshall, Morgan and Scott unconditional; remains open until December 29. Acceptances, together with 27 per cent owned before offer, total 94.2 per cent of total capital before scrip issue approved by Marshall holders on December 15.

ALUMINUM OF AMERICA

Faced with shortage of capital, the aluminium industry will have to meet increased demand by expanding present facilities, chairman said. Next year should see one-third jump in shipments of metal, thanks to lower consumer stocks and upturn in some markets.

WALMSLEY (BURY)

Full details of agreed takeover offer by Beloit, of United States, have been issued, and will go before class meetings on January 14. Mr Alan Green, chairman of Walmsley, says world competition in paper-making machinery *and increasing involvement of* governments require unified ownership.

J. H. FENNER

After a fall in demand last year, noticeably in the important power transmission division but in fluid sealing as well, J. H. Fenner reckons that the worst is now over. *November's £4.3m rights* issue proved successful with both major shareholders, Renold and the David Brown interests, taking up their entitlements.

LAWSON SECURITIES

Lawson Securities, Edinburgh-based unit trust group, says that negotiations for the sale of the company have been terminated.

ROBERT MOSS

Pre-tax profits £72,000 (£234,000) and turnover £522,000 (£691,000) for half year to September 30. The interim dividend rises from 1.49p to 1.69p. Mr R. B. Cole, chairman, thinks that the *second half will* show a marked improvement on first.

COMPTON PARTNERS

Profits before tax for year to September 30, £459,000 (£446,000). Total payment, 5.18p gross (4.71p gross).

HUDSON'S BAY OIL BID

Company has received approval for proposed purchase from Sulpetro of Canada of part of that company's holding of petroleum and natural gas rights. Total price will be about $98m (£48.7m).

WEARRA GROUP

Turnover for year to end-September down from £4.16m to £4.03m. Pre-tax profit fell to £33,000 (£141,000), before tax of nil (£83,000) and extraordinary items of £46,000 (nil). Dividend cut from 1.42p gross to 0.53p gross.

SUTCLIFFE, SPEAKMAN

On turnover up from £2.08m to £4.21m, pre-tax profit rose from £161,000 to £209,000 in half-year to September 30. Interim dividend, 1.66p gross (against 1.48p, adjusted for scrip).

Business appointments

New Unilever group secretary and director

Mr A. I. Anderson and Mr R. H. Del Mar are to retire from the boards of both Unilever and Unilever NV next year. It is intended to nominate Mr G. K. G. Stevens for election as a director of both companies. Mr H. Holmes is to retire as secretary to both companies next year and will be succeeded by Mr J. D. Keir.

Mr D. J. Rowland has relinquished the chairmanship and resigned from the board of Venesta International. He is succeeded as chairman by Mr C. G. H. Cooke, who also remains managing director. Mr Richard Roberts, deputy chairman, has retired from the board. Dr Philip Sykes, a former deputy chairman of Reed International, and Mr Gilbert Hunt, chairman of Chrysler UK, have joined the board as non-executive directors. Mr Arthur Surch, who continues as an executive director, will join the board of the group's French subsidiary, Luterma SA.

Mr H. H. Munte has become a non-executive director of Norcros.

Mr Ivan Dorr becomes chairman and managing director of Nu-Swift International on the retirement as an executive director of Mr Find Graucob. Mr Eric Davenport becomes homes sales director and Mr David Wilkinson research and development director. Mr Peter Harrison has been appointed an associate director and service manager.

Under reorganization changes at Portals Water Treatment, a subsidiary of Portals Holdings, Mr L. Rabeneck is to be made overseas director of Portals Water Treatment and the following managing directors appointed: Houseman Hegro: Mr K. J. Daniells; *Paterson Candy International*: Mr A. A. Leman: Permutit-Boby: Dr E. W. Jackson: Portacel: Mr R. A. Gardener; Water Treatment Advisory Services: Dr T. V. Arden: Zerolit: Mr J. E. F. Lloyd.

Mr R. Baker Wilbraham has gone on the board of **Bishopsgate** Trust in succession to Mr J. Backhouse, who has resigned.

Mr Harrison F. Tempest, general manager of the London branch of First National **Bank of** *Chicago, and vice-president for* the United Kingdom, Ireland and Scandinavia, has been made a senior vice-president of the bank.

Dr John Watkinson has joined Plessey as director of operations staff. He was group managing director of Redman Heenan International.

Mr H. N. Hughes has been appointed managing director of Stone & Webster Engineering and continues to coordinate the activities of all Stone & Webster *companies in Europe. Mr Peter* Smith, company secretary, has joined the board of Stone & Webster Engineering.

Jobbers wary of Cape nominees

By Desmond Quigley

Smith Bros, a leading London stockjobber in South African shares, is refusing to handle any *South African Cape Delivery* stock which contains nominee or suspected nominee names on the transfer form. Another jobber, Wedd Durlacher Mordaunt is taking precautions over *buying stock* held in nominee names although Stocken & Lazarus is taking no action.

Smith's decision, after consultation with its legal advisers, follows last month's decision by *the South African Appellate* Division to uphold a verdict that stolen scrip should be returned to its rightful owner. The case stems from the theft of scrip by an employee of a sequestered South African brok*ing firm which was later sold* to a nominee company.

A spokesman for Smith said yesterday that the firm was *merely protecting itself against* holding any stock whose ownership was doubtful. The decision, which has been made pending clarification of the situation by South African authorities, is unlikely to affect UK investors who go through the London *Register, but it* will have an impact on international professional operators.

UCM COPES SUCCESSFULLY with international trading problems

Chairman, Eric Sosnow, tells shareholders in his *Annual Report:*

"Thanks to the diversification and elasticity of the Group, it passed a very stiff test last year and was able to cope successfully with unexpected changes in the international trading pattern.

The UK and overseas subsidiaries of UCM managed to offset most of the adverse situations by increasing profits from other activities.

Since the end of the year most companies of the Group have been very active, and the trading results have greatly improved. Although it is rather difficult to make a clear forecast I am looking forward to increased profits during the current financial year."

GROUP RESULTS

TURNOVER:	£127,524,790
PRE-TAX PROFITS:	£1,848,449
NET ASSETS:	£6,531,673
DIVIDENDS:	1.016p per share
BONUS:	1-for-5 capitalisation issue

United City Merchants Limited

International Traders and Bankers. UCM House, 3/5 Swallow Place, Princes Street, LONDON, W1A 1BB. Tel. 01-629 8424

هكذا من الأصل

Your company is judged by the company it keeps.

Guest Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd. 14th May 1975

Portals: confidence based on a good order book for essential products.

A Summary of the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Tore Nicholl, included in the 1974 Annual Report.

1974 saw further good progress and earnings per share after tax rose 13%.

Direct exports have again increased significantly, from £8.5 million to £13 million and, if one adds indirect exports of bank note and security paper and the trade that is carried out by our overseas companies, the proportion of our total turnover generated by activity overseas amounts to about 60%...

The Water Treatment and Engineering Division – for most of 1974 the principal companies had full order books and achieved their anticipated profits. However, towards the end of the year there was a considerable downturn in the demand in Western Europe which is, to some extent, offset by orders from OPEC countries.

The Bank Note and Security Paper Division – our three mills at Overton, Rathbird and Rybridalk all enjoyed full capacity and excellent production and profit figures during 1974. We go into 1975 with our productive capacity still fully employed. Our main objectives this year are to expand our capacity (we are installing a new paper machine at Overton) and to improve our productivity, so that we remain competitive in spite of the huge increases in the cost of labour and, to a lesser extent, materials.

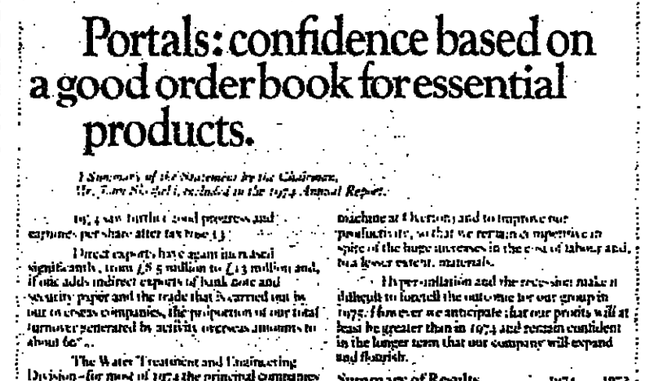
Hyperinflation and the recession make it difficult to foretell the outcome for our group in 1975. However we anticipate that our profits will at least be greater than in 1974 and remain confident in the longer term that our company will expand and flourish.

Summary of Results	1974 £'000	1973 £'000
Group Turnover	45,122	37,101
Profit before Tax	4,251	3,887
Profit after Tax and Minorities	1,956	1,756
Ordinary Dividends	662	608
1974 7.75p per share gross equivalent (1973 6.886p)		
Earnings per share (basic)	15.01p	13.26p

Portals Holdings Limited

Liquid and Water Treatment Engineers & Security Paper Manufacturers

Part of the cover of our Report & Accounts, reproduced here, is taken from a Chinese paper scroll, with a water scene as its subject matter, painted in the 17th Century since 1,400 years after paper had been invented in China.



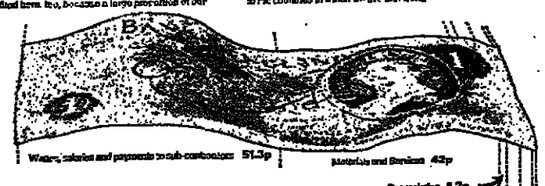
Portals Holdings Ltd. 12th September 1975

British Industry, the real dangers

Tube Investments Limited

Tube Investments Ltd. 21st August 1975

Last year, Taylor Woodrow's profits were up by 15%. If you want to know who benefited, look in any mirror.

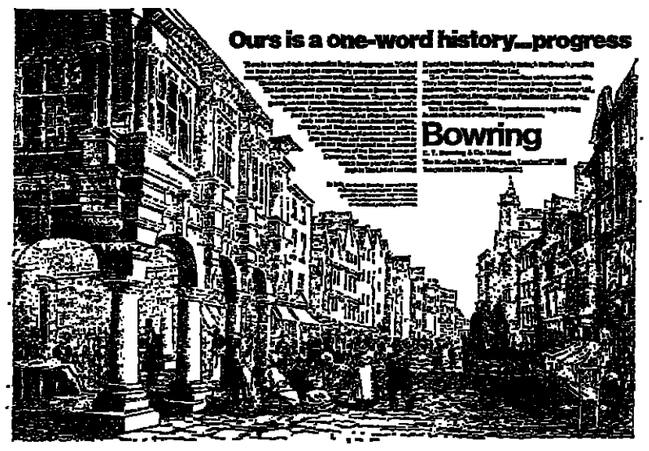


Where each £1 of our earnings went in 1974

Taylor Woodrow The Teamworkers

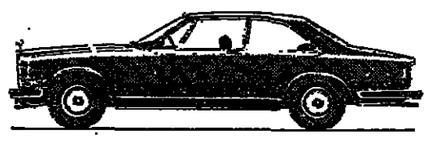
The World Wide Team of Engineers, Constructors and Developers

Taylor Woodrow 15th May 1975



C.T. Bowring & Company Ltd. 10th October 1975

Rolls-Royce Motors exports quality and brings profit to Britain



✲ Turnover at £58M and profit at £4.95M for 1974 show increases over 1973 with record sales of cars and diesel engines.

✲ Direct exports alone worked out at £2,480 per person employed in 1974, thus making Rolls-Royce Motors one of the most export intensive businesses in the country.

✲ Product developments in the Diesel Division, particularly with the new range of V-form engines, being developed in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence, provide exciting sales prospects.

✲ The Rolls-Royce 'Camargue' launched in March 1975 shows impressive forward order position and restates the Company's intention to maintain its reputation as the manufacturer of 'The Best Car in the World'.

✲ The directors greatly appreciate the hard and imaginative work by all employees adding up to what in motor industry terms must be called a distinguished achievement.

The above points are taken from the Report and Accounts 1974 of Rolls-Royce Motors Holdings Limited, copies of which are available from The Secretary, Rolls-Royce Motors Holdings Limited, Pym's Lane, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 3PL.

Rolls-Royce Motors Holdings Ltd. 7th April 1975

When you publish details of your company's activities, whether it be a Corporate Advertisement, Company Statement or Interim Report, you are displaying the bare bones of your company to the business public.

Whether you are discussing your products, services, profit, growth or areas of diversification you are presenting your company's business acumen to both your competitors and public alike.

Another area where you can show good business sense is by your choice of advertising medium. Over the last twelve months a large number of leading companies have chosen to present themselves to the business community through The Times Business News.

And with good reason.

By advertising in The Times Business News they were talking to the prominent and successful people from many varied professions. They were reaching the decision makers; people whose business is money, like those in government, the city, the professions, and in the private and public sectors of industry.

And, on a world-wide scale, they were reaching the international business community.

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Mr. Richard H. Selmon, Financial Advertisement Director, 01-837 1234. Ext. 7696.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank ..	11%
First London Secs	11%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*11%
Lloyds Bank	11%
Midland Bank	11%
Nat Westminster ..	11%
Rossminster Acc's	11%
Shenley Trust	12½%
20th Century Bank	12½%
Williams & Glyn's	11%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 7%, up to £25,000, 7½%, over £25,000, 8½%.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
63-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1974-75 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
55	25	Armitage & Rhodes	28	—	3.0	10.7	7.4
99	94	Deborah Services	99	—	7.5	7.6	5.2
137	90	Henry Sykes	137	—	4.9	3.6	9.1
61	18	Twinlock Ord	22	—1	0.9	4.2	5.4
66	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	53	—	12.0	22.6	—
62	43	Unilock Holdings	59	—	4.5	7.6	11.4

"1975...a year of great economic stress, but it is with considerable pride that I report record results."

J. C. Roscoe, JP, DL, ACII. President (15.12.75)

Our total assets reached £1,354 million.

This represents a rate of growth of 22·05%—the highest in the Society's history.

For the first time, the number of new investment accounts opened during the year exceeded 250,000. Our gross investment receipts totalled a record £595 million, allowing us to loan £271·4 million to families buying their homes at an average of almost £5½ million per week.

In fact, we granted 37,500 new mortgages and helped another 7,800 existing members to improve their homes.

In an economically uncertain year we have maintained the confidence that has made us one of the world's largest building societies.

We shall build on it.

The Leeds PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY
Permanent House, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 1NS.

Wallace Brothers Trading & Industrial Limited

Results for the year ended 31st July, 1975 are announced as follows:

	1975 £	1974 £
Consolidated Profit before taxation	1,064,491	617,689
Total Shareholders' Funds	6,860,521	5,795,258

Wallace Brothers Trading & Industrial Limited is a member of the Wallace Brothers & Co. (Holdings) Limited Group

HEAD OFFICE
4 Crosby Square, London EC3A 6AJ

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You ought to know a DETROIT BANK-er better

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

Continued from page 18

SUGAR futures were firmer. The London daily prices were "raws" £163 (£5 up); "whites" £177 (£4 up).—March, £163.55-63.75 per long ton; May, £163.55-63.75; Aug, £165.90-66.05; Oct, £164.05-64.25; Dec, £164-64.50; March, £164-64.25; May, £163.50-64.00. Sales: 2,520 lots. ISA prices: 13.35c; 17-day average 12.79c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady.—Dec, £84.50-85.00 per metric ton; Feb, £81.80-82.00; April, £82.70-82.80; June, £83.40-83.60; Aug, £84.20-84.50; Oct, £85.30-85.50. Sales: 80 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady.—Dec, 169-71p per kilo; March, 172-74p; May, 175.5-78.5p; July, 177-81p; Oct, 187-89p; Dec, 189-90p; March, 191-92p; May, 192.5-94.5p. Sales: 5 lots.

JUTE was quiet.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, Dec-Jan, £195 per long ton. "D" grade, Dec-Jan, £188. Calcutta was steady.—Indian Jan, Rs 460 per bale of 400lb. Dundee Daisee, Jan, Rs 430.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—North American milling wheat for first open water shipment attracted consumer interest at lower offering levels. Scattered inquiry was also evident for optional sorghums for Jan shipment to the west coast United Kingdom and for option maize for Jan trans-shipment to the east coast. Business was slow to develop however.

WHEAT.—United States dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Feb, £94.85; March, £95.15; April, £90.10 direct Tilbury. April/early May, £94.40; May, £94.55; June, £94.65; July, £96, trans-shipment east coast. EEC feed: Dec, £63.25; Jan, £64.75 trans-shipment east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: Dec, £66.15; Jan, £66.50; Feb, £67.25 trans-shipment east coast. South African white: Jan, £68.25; Feb, £68.50; March, £68.75 United Kingdom. South African yellow: Jan, £67.25; Feb, £67.50; March, £67.75 United Kingdom.

BARLEY.—EEC feed: Dec, £65.75; Jan, £66.50 west coast. All per long ton cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: Jan, £62; March, £64.15; May, £66; Sept, £64.70; Nov, £66.70. WHEAT was steady: Jan, £63.65; March, £65.30; May, £66.95; Sept, £66.25; Nov, £67.50.

MARK LANE: Trading remained quiet with little change in valuations. Reported parcel sales included Jan deliveries of denaturable wheat to various destinations around £65 per long ton. The following are average sellers quotations per long ton for delivery London area. Wheat milling: Jan, March, £7. Denaturable: Jan/March, 66. Barley feed: Jan/March, £63.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority's regional and UK average ex-farm spot prices for week ending Thursday, December 11.—Soft milling WHEAT: S East, £62.95; S West, £62; Eastern, £62.45; E Midlands, £62.65; W Midlands, £62.80; N East, £63.40; N West, £63.40; Scotland, no price; N Ireland, no price; UK, £62.85. Feeding BARLEY: S East, £60.70; S West, £61.25; Eastern, £60.40; E Midlands, £60.50; W Midlands, £60.65; N East, £60.50; N West, £60.95; Scotland, £60.45; N Ireland, no price; UK, £60.65.

Location ex-farm spot prices for December 15—

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
East Suffolk	£61.70	£61.30	£60.25

The UK monetary coefficients for week beginning Monday, December 22, based on HGCA calculations, are expected to remain unchanged.

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets for week ended December 13: **UK:** Cattle, £23.76 per live cwt (+1.06). Sheep, 39.1p per lb EDCW (+0.6). Pigs, £4.91 per sc LW (—0.16). **England and Wales:** Cattle numbers up 2.7 per cent, average price £23.90 (+1.10). Sheep numbers up 13.1 per cent, average price 39.4p (—0.7). Pig numbers up 1.4 per cent, average price £4.90 (—0.04). **Scotland:** Cattle numbers up 4.3 per cent, average price £23.98 (+0.59). Sheep numbers up .51 per cent, average price 37.9p (+0.5). Pig numbers up 24.3 per cent, average price £5.20 (+0.02).

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 15: **UK:** Cattle, £23.66 per live cwt (+1.55). Sheep, 39.0p per lb EDCW (—0.2). Pigs, £5.07 per sc LW (+0.09). **England and Wales:** Cattle, numbers down 9.6 per cent, average price £23.88 (+1.65). Sheep numbers up 15.6 per cent, average price 39.4p (—0.2). Pig numbers up 37.9 per cent, average price £5.06 (—0.09). **Scotland:** Cattle numbers down 3.9 per cent, average price £24.65 (+0.84). Sheep numbers down 11.4 per cent, average price 37.5p (—0.8). Pig numbers up 38.2 per cent, average price £5.26 (+0.12).

TEA.—A total of 41,870 packages of north Indian and African teas were offered at yesterday's auction, the Tea-brokers' Association said. There was a good general demand at fully firm to dearer prices with dusts and coloury fannings strong features. The association said that after today's auction there will be a one-day auction on December 22 and following that the next auction will be on January 5.

HALL & EARL

Turnover expanded from £3.31m to £3.85m in six months to end-September. Profit, £265,000 (£220,000), before tax and extraordinary items of £27,200 (nil).

Foreign Exchange

The dollar firmed a little in European currency trading yesterday, assisted by light commercial demand and year-end "window-dressing" demand.

The Swiss franc returned to parity against the mark, at 99.90-100.10. Swiss franc Eurodeposit interest rates over the year-end reached 18 per cent, supporting the Swiss unit against European currencies, dealers said. The dollar moved to 2.6380-6400 against the franc from 2.6370-90 on Friday.

It also gained to 2.6370-90 marks (Friday 2.6310-25), after being "fixed" at 2.6365 in Frankfurt where the West German Federal Bank sold $3.4m.

For its part, sterling fell 20 points against the dollar to $2.0170. The pound's effective rate was unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Gold fell 50 cents an ounce, to close in London at $138.25.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) December 15	Market rates (close) December 15
New York	$2.0160-0190	$2.0165-0175
Montreal	$2.0460-0510	$2.0465-0475
Amsterdam	5.43-46fl	5.44½-45½fl
Brussels	79.90-80.30f	80.00-20f
Copenhagen	12.44-47k	12.46-47k
Frankfurt	5.30-34m	5.32½-33½m
Lisbon	54.60-55.00e	54.80-85.00e
Madrid	120.40-90p	120.60-90p
Milan	1379-83lr	1379½-81½lr
Oslo	11.24-28k	11.25-26k
Paris	9.00-04f	9.02½-03½f
Stockholm	8.90½-93½k	8.91½-92½k
Tokyo	615-22y	616-18y
Vienna	37.40-70sch	37.50-70sch
Zurich	5.31-34f	5.31½-32½f

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971 unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.92-.82c prem	2.40-2.30c prem
Montreal	.40-.30c prem	1.00-.90c prem
Amsterdam	3-2c prem	8½-7½c prem
Brussels	45-25c prem	110-90c prem
Copenhagen	6¼-4¾ore prem	15¼-13¾ore prem
Frankfurt	3¼-2¾pf prem	9¼-8¼pf prem
Lisbon	15c prem-45c disc	40c prem-60c disc
Milan	4-2lr prom	8½-6½lr prem
Oslo	5-3ore prem	13-11ore prem
Paris	4½-3½c prem	10-8c prem
Stockholm	4¼-2¾ore prem	11-9ore prem
Vienna	35-10gro prem	75-50gro prem
Zurich	3¼-2¾c prem	10¼-9¼c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $0.9849-52.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 5-6½ seven days, 5½-5¾; one month, 5⅞-6⅛; three months, 6⅛-6⅜; six months, 7⅛-7⅜.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $136.65 (an ounce); pm, $138.15.

Krugerrand: (per coin: $140.50-142.50 (£69.50-70.50) (domestic); $140.75-143.75 (£69.75-70.75) (international).

Sovereigns: (old), $42-43 (£20.75-21.25) (new), $41-46 (£21.75-22.75) (international).

UK metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (in tonnes unless otherwise stated) were: Copper up 5,275 to 492,875; Tin down 435 to 6,720; Lead up 2,700 to 84,400; Zinc up 2,050 to 72,475; Silver up 640,000 to 17,540,000 troy ounces.

Discount market

Although there had been early indications that money would be adequate or even slightly in surplus, a hitch developed somewhere in the system and the authorities eventually had to relieve a small shortage. In fact, this help proved not quite enough and one or two houses found it fairly expensive to secure their closing balances.

During the morning, funds had been aswering very readily to bids that came down from an early 10⅝ per cent to around 10½ per cent before midday.

By early afternoon, rates had turned up to 10⅝ and then 11 per cent. Right at the close, one or two were paying even above 11½ per cent as inter-bank rate climbed to touch 13 per cent.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 11¼%
(Last changed 28/11/75)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 11%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 11 Close 10½
Week Fixed: 10¾-10½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	10⅝	2 months	10⅝
3 months	10 49/64	3 months	10⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	10¾-10⅝	3 months	11¾
3 months	10¾-10⅝	4 months	11¾
4 months	10¾-10⅝	6 months	11¾
6 months	10¾-10⅝		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	11½-11¼	7 months	11¾-11½
2 months	11½-11¼	8 months	11¾-11½
3 months	11½-11¼	9 months	11¾-11½
4 months	11½-11¼	10 months	11¾-11½
5 months	11½-11¼	11 months	11¾-11½
6 months	11½-11¼	12 months	11¾-11½

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	11⅜-11¼	6 months	11½-11
3 months	11¼-11	12 months	11¾-11⅝

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	10¼	3 months	11
7 days	10-11	6 months	11⅛
1 month	10⅞	1 year	11⅝-11¾

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 13-10½ Close 12½

1 week	10½-10⅛	6 months	11⅛-11
1 month	10¾-10⅝	9 months	11⅛-11¼
3 months	11⅛-11	12 months	11¼-11⅜

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 11⅛ 6 months 11⅛

Finance House Base Rate 12%

Recent Issues

	Closing price
Bristol 12¾% 1981 (£99¾)	£99¾
Coventry 12¾% 1980 (£99¾c)	£99¾
Elandsrand Gold 20c (R3)	250
Essex Wtr 9% Pf (£)	£11½
Lee Valley Wtr 9% Rd Pf (£)	£93¾
Treasury 10¼% 'A' 1979 (£97)	£97¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Anglo Am Asph (100c)	Jan 31	78 prem
Ewin Save (10)	Jan 16	10 prem
Mowlem J (62)	Jan 16	7½ prem
Nat Bnk Aust (A$1.54)	Feb 13	140 prem
Posting (10)	Jan 7	16½ prem
Pullman R.J. (50)	Feb 5	3 prem
Runciman W (92)	Jan 30	20 prem
Spillers (38)	Jan 21	2 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £45 paid. c £20 paid. e £30 paid. f £50 paid. g £60 paid. h £25 paid. i £40 paid.

S AND W BERISFORD

Company announces applications were received in respect of 12,823,528 (95.67 per cent) shares offered by way of rights.

Doubts whether tighter tin export controls will do enough for prices

Although tin prices advanced both in Penang and London following the decision of the International Tin Council to tighten export controls for the first quarter of next year, the general reaction has been cool and there is suspicion that the new restrictions will not be enough to sustain prices in the face of poor demand.

A cutback of around 20 per cent is involved in the ruling, which reduces permitted export levels from 35,000 tonnes in the current quarter to 32,000 tonnes for January-March 1976. The "split" between producers is: Australia, 1,399 tonnes; Bolivia, 5,779; Indonesia, 4,387; Malaysia, 13,952; Nigeria, 1,334; Thailand, 4,016 and Zaire, 1,133.

The degree of concern felt by the Tin Council about poor demand, which has depressed prices below levels regarded as economic by the producers, was indicated by the fact that the cutback was announced last Tuesday, on only the second day of a week-long meeting of the council.

Overnight the Penang price rose by nearly SM11, from SM939.125 a picul to SM950, and the following day by a further SM12. On Wednesday the London prices advanced by £23.50 to £3,073.50 for standard cash and by £22.50 to £3,141 for three months. Next day there were further, more modest, advances.

Despite the initial Penang reaction, a further cut of 1,308 tonnes in Malaysia's export quota is bound to deepen unrest among marginal producers. This year more than 90 gravel pump mines have closed through a combination of low prices and reduced exports and many more are now facing possible closure.

Bolivia has a similar problem, but the Medium-Scale Miners' Association in La Paz has said that it regards the cutback as necessary to defend world tin prices. Mr Raul Espana Smith, the association president, said that although in the short term the reduced quotas meant further difficulties for the Bolivian mining industry, in the long run they would help prices to recover. Medium-scale mines produce about 40 per cent of Bolivia's tin.

Against the feelings of producers, the Tin Council has had to weigh pressure on the buffer stock, which was clearly signalled by the decision in November to negotiate a further £20m standby credit, in addition to the existing £16m facility, to bolster the stock.

Like other metals, tin is dependent on general economic recovery for an improvement in demand and, like the death of King Charles II, this is taking an unconscionable long time. In the meantime, the buffer stock manager has been taking in metal at a rate which has probably used up all his cash in hand and probably absorbed more than a third of the enlarged standby credit.

Indecision about UNCTAD plan

No doubt the United States will have noted the remarks last week by Mr Gamani Corea, secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, about the United Nations plan for stabilizing world markets and prices.

He said the plan did not deny the need for a case-by-case approach to trade problems of individual commodities (a method favoured by the United States) but this should be carried out within the framework of an integrated comprehensive programme conceived by the UNCTAD secretariat and not consist of a number of isolated actions failing to add up to a manifold attack on commodity problems.

Mr Corea told UNCTAD's commodities committee in Geneva that agreement was emerging on the need for action on commodity problems, but there was no accord yet on the type of action. There was still a gap between an approach favouring minimum intervention in existing market structures (again, the American approach) and another calling for basic reforms and a regulatory regime to govern world commodity trade.

Regarding the proposals under the United Nations plan to set up stockpiles of 10 key commodities, Mr Corea said there had been suggestions that a decision on a common financing fund could not be taken until after individual commodity arrangements had been made. But he believed that both processes could go on at the same time.

Not only would a fund result in financial economies compared with efforts to obtain cash separately for each commodity arrangement, but if it was known that finance was available, this would help to bring producer, consumer and oil exporting countries together.

The UNCTAD commodities committee is examining the overall commodity plan before it goes to a full UNCTAD conference in Nairobi next May. The key commodities are seen as sugar, coffee, cocoa, tea, rubber, copper, tin, cotton, jute and hard fibres. It is estimated that about $3,000m would be needed initially to finance stockpiles, with a similar sum in reserve.

First detailed outlines of the proposed fund show that contributions would cover one-third of the buffer stock funding and loans the remainder. In one of three options oil producing states would cover 25 per cent of the capital costs and commodity importers and exporters the balance.

If the oil states did not contribute, producers and consumers could split the whole capital cost equally or with exporters paying 60 per cent, Mr Corea has suggested. If contributions were allocated according to states' market shares in the 10 basic commodities, and the oil states contributed, the United States would be assessed as the largest contributor at $79m.

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Wall Street

New York, Dec 15.—Prices, mixed at the opening, were slightly lower in light trading on the New York Stock Exchange this morning. The Dow Jones industrial averages was less than one point lower and declines led advances by less than 20 issues.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorised Unit Trusts

1974/75 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abacus Arbuthnot Ltd, Barnett Hse, Fountain St, Man 2. 061-236 9773			
[illegible]	20.6	Giants	29.6	31.8	3.86
[illegible]	[illegible]	Do Accum	32.0	34.4	3.86
[illegible]	[illegible]	Growth	27.4	29.5	4.26
[illegible]	[illegible]	Do Accum	29.0	31.1	4.26
[illegible]	20.7	Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.4
[illegible]	20.7	Do Accum	34.0	36.6	11.49
[illegible]	19.6	East & Int Acc	17.7	19.0	2.53
		Hill Samuel Unit Trust Managers Ltd, 45 Beech St, EC2 P2LX. 01-628 8011			
63.9	39.1	Dollar	55.2	59.2	2.19
30.8	19.5	International	29.1	31.2	3.08
		Jascot Securities Ltd, 21 Loren St, Edinburgh, EH3 9LH. 031-226 1421			
		Key Fund Managers, 25 Milk St, EC2V 8JE. 01-606 7070			
56.6	31.7	Cap Fund	46.0	51.1	4.60
50.3	30.5	Energy Ind Fnd	49.3	52.4	4.45
79.7	49.1	Exempt Fnd (38)	74.8	79.4	7.37
74.3	41.5	KPIF	65.5	59.1	5.05
		Lawson Securities, 63 George Street, Edinburgh. 031-226 3911			
24.0	15.6	American Fnd	18.4	21.4	2.59
24.0	15.6	Do Accum	19.5	21.5	2.59
40.5	27.3	High Yield Fnd	35.0	40.5	11.70
45.5	29.0	Do Accum	40.9	46.5	11.70
70.1	47.3	Scottish Inc	64.6	71.9	2.43
77.7	47.3	Do Accum	66.7	74.0	2.43
		Legal & General Tyndall Fund, 18 Canynge Rd, Bristol. 0272 32241			
46.4	23.6	Distribution (40)	43.4	44.0	5.35
51.0	26.3	Do Accum (40)	49.8	52.6	5.35
		Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers, 71 Lombard St, London, EC3. 01-623 1288			
		M & G Securities, Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588			
		Prudential Unit Trust Managers, Holborn Bars, London, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222			
97.5	46.5	Prudential	82.0	94.50	4.63
		Reliance Unit Managers Ltd, Reliance Hse, Mt Ephraim, Tun Wells. 0892 22271			
42.0	25.6	Opp Accum (2)	40.5	43.2	4.54
		Save & Prosper Group, 4 Great St Helen's, EC3P 3EP. 01-588 1717			
		Ebor Securities,			
54.7	34.8	Universal Growth	52.7	56.4	2.96
		Henry Schroder Wagg & Co Ltd, 120 Cheapside, London, EC2. 01-248 3999			
		Scottish Equitable Fund Managers Ltd, 28 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh. 031-556 9101			
42.4	25.0	Equitable (2)	39.9	42.5	5.60
		Slater Walker Trust Management Ltd, 3 Ldn Wall Bldgs, EC2M 5QL. 01-628 0476			
		Stewart Unit Trust Managers Ltd, 45 Charlotte St, Edinburgh. 031-226 3271			
66.6	26.2	American Fnd	40.5	41.9e	2.90
101.1	62.7	Brit Cap Fnd	96.0	102.0	4.75
		Sun Alliance Management Ltd, Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex. 0403 64141			
132.5	106.0	Exempt Eq Tst	129.5	135.7	4.37
		Tyndall Managers Ltd, 18 Canynge Rd, Bristol. 0272 32241			

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1974/75 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abbey Life Assurance Co Ltd, 1-3 St Pauls Churchyard, EC4P 4DX. 01-248 9111			
		Barclays Life Assurance Co, Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, E7. 01-555 1211			
89.9	66.0	Barclaybonds	88.7	93.5	..
		Beehive Life Assurance, 71 Lombard St, London, EC3 P3BS. 01-623 1288			
101.0	100.0	Black Horse Bnd	..	101.0	..
		Canada Life Assurance, 2-6 High St, Potters Bar, Herts. P Bar 51122			
46.6	24.9	Equity Grwth	..	45.6	..
104.3	53.5	Retirement	..	99.8	..
		Crown Life Fund Insurance Co, Addiscombe Rd, Croydon. 01-686 4300			
118.2	91.3	Crown Brit Inv	..	118.2	..
		Crusader Insurance, Bowring Bldgs, Tower Place, EC3. 01-626 8031			
61.9	50.6	Crusader Prop	55.9	62.2	..
		Eagle Star Insurance/Midland Assurance, PO Box 173, NLA Tower, Croydon. 01-681 1071			
40.7	23.7	Eagle Units	37.1	39.5	6.53
40.7	23.8	Midland Units	37.1	39.5	6.53
		Slater Walker Insurance Co Ltd, 30 Uxbridge Rd, W12. 01-749 9111			
		Standard Life Assurance Co, PO Box 62, 3 George St, Edinburgh. 031-225 7971			
91.0	41.8	Unit Endowmt	..	91.0	..
		Irish Life Assurance, 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253			
57.7	32.3	Blue Chip Fnd	56.1	59.1	4.50
		Manufacturers Life Insurance, Manulife Hse, Stevenage, Herts. 0438 56101			
30.8	17.2	Manulife (5)	30.4	31.9	..
		Pearl Assurance (Unit Funds) Ltd, 252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EB. 01-405 8441			
93.9	100.0	Prop Acc Units	93.9	100.7	..
93.9	100.7	Prop Dist Units	93.9	100.7	..
		Phoenix Assurance, 4-5 King William St, EC4. 01-626 9876			
93.2	59.9	Wealth Assured	83.4	87.9	..

Offshore and International Funds

1974/75 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abacus Arbuthnot (C.I.) Ltd, 1 Broad St, St Helier, Jersey, C.I.			
		Barbican Managers (Jersey) Ltd, PO Box 63, St Helier, Jersey, C.I.			
		Brandts (Jersey) Ltd,			
		Brandts Ltd, 36 Fenchurch St, London, EC3.			
		Calvin Bullock Ltd, 80 Bishopsgate, London, EC2.			
		Charterhouse Japhet, 1 Paternoster Row, EC4.			
		Cornhill Insurance (Guernsey) Ltd,			
		Ebor Management (Jersey),			
		Eurosyndical Group,			
		First General Unit Managers, 91 Pembroke Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.			
		Hambros (Guernsey) Ltd, PO Box 86, St Peter Port, Guernsey.			
		Individual Life Insurance Ltd, 45 South St, Eastbourne.			
		Kayanday Bermuda Management Ltd, Atlas Hse, PO Box 1029, Hamilton 5, Bermuda			
		Lamont Investment Management Ltd, 8 St Georges St, Douglas, IOM.			
		M & G Group, Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588			
		Old Court Fund Managers Ltd, PO Box 58, St Julians Ct, Guernsey.			
		Oliver Heath & Co, 31 Maler St, Castletown, I.O.M.			
		Slater Walker Insurance Co (C.I.) Ltd, 2 Grange Pl, St Peter Port, Guernsey			
69.0	52.3	Worldwide	..	62.9	3.00
		Slater Walker (Jersey), 2-6 Church St, St Helier, Jersey			
		Target Trust Managers (Cayman) Ltd, PO Box 710, Grand Cayman, Cayman Is.			
		Tyndall Group, PO Box 1256, Hamilton, Bermuda.			
		Tyndall Group, 43 La Motte St, St Helier, Jersey			

• Ex dividend. * Not available to the general public. † Guernsey gross yield. ‡ Previous day's price. a Ex all. e Dealings suspended. f Sub-divided. £ Cash value for £100 premium.

Dealing or valuation days—(1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. ... (38) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly.

هكذا من الأصل

Herring Daw Chartered Surveyors 26/28 Sackville Street London W1X 2QL Telephone 01-734 8155 Paris · Sydney · Melbourne

Stock Exchange Prices

Prices stay firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 12. Dealings End, Dec 24. § Contango Day, Dec 29. Settlement Day, Jan 7

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

City Offices
Hampton & Sons
01-236 7831

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Investment Dollar Premium 114¼% (117⅝%)
Premium Conversion Factor 0.5995.

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
232	82	Brit & Comm	193	-1	11.6	6.0	8.9
95	60	Fisher J.	86	..	3.6	4.2	4.4
250	103	Furness Withy	174	-1	9.8	5.6	3.9
310	75	Hunting Gibson	142	..	13.9a	9.8	4.6
42½	11	Jacobs J. I.	22½	+¼	..e	..	6.6
69½	17	Ldn & O'seas Fr	32	+½	5.0	15.5	1.2
240	27	Manch Liners	240	+15	7.7	3.2	6.6
140	50	Ocean Trans	126	+1	9.6n	7.7	12.8
134	57	P & O 'Dfd'	99	+1	8.1	8.1	..
135	63½	Runciman W	126	+4	10.4	8.3	5.6

MINES

MISCELLANEOUS

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 15.12.75 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1950):—

	Index No. Latest	Div. Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Index No. Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	151.24	6.47	11.85	150.83
Largest Coys.	150.38	6.30	12.04	150.02
Smaller Coys.	154.00	7.01	11.65	153.89
Capital Goods	155.48	6.87	11.47	155.07
Consumer Goods	172.88	6.48	11.58	171.90
Store Shares	128.44	6.66	7.31	129.17
Largest financial shares	178.20	5.69	—	179.57
Largest financial and industrial shares	155.87	6.19	—	155.64
Commodity shares	218.93	4.48	10.79	220.65
Gold Mining shares	433.62	7.46	11.02	442.49
Industrial debenture stocks	77.31	8.02*	—	77.32
Industrial preference stocks	48.90	15.03*	—	48.96
3½% War Loan	23½	14.83*	—	23⅝

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low
All-time	198.47 (15.08.72)	60.18 (12.12.74)
1975	155.92 (19.11.75)	61.42 (06.01.75)
1974	136.19 (28.02.74)	60.18 (12.12.74)
1973	189.38 (12.01.73)	120.99 (24.12.73)
1972	198.47 (15.08.72)	174.48 (10.01.72)
1971	174.77 (31.12.71)	122.23 (02.03.71)
1970	145.78 (14.01.70)	110.75 (26.06.70)

* Flat interest yield.

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THURSDAY, 18th DECEMBER, at 11 a.m.
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN SILVER AND PLATE
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MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER, at 10.30 a.m.
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MINTON
Cat., 60 illustrations, 7 in colour) 55p

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THURSDAY, 18th DECEMBER, at 4.30 p.m.
FURNITURE

FRIDAY, 19th DECEMBER, at 4.30 p.m.
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NEW YEAR SALES

The first sale at Bond Street is on Thursday, 8th January 1976. The galleries will be open for viewing from Monday, 5th January. The first sale at Belgravia is on Tuesday, 6th January 1976. The galleries will be open for viewing from Monday, 29th December (except Thursday, 1st January).

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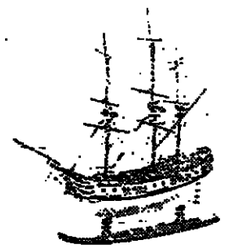

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18th at 10.30 a.m.
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18th at 11 a.m.
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18th at 2 p.m.
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19th at 10.30 a.m.
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Wednesday 17th December at 11 am.
CARPETS AND RUGS
Catalogue 30p.

Thursday 18th December at 11 am.
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At the Old Chelsea Galleries
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Thur., Dec. 18, 10 a.m.	Furniture, etc., Marylebone.
Thur., Dec. 18, 10.30 a.m.	Soldiers, Rail, Dinkies 2.30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 19, 11 a.m.	Silver & Plate.
Fri., Dec. 19, 11 a.m.	Postage Stamps.
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Mon., Dec. 22, 2 p.m.	*Oil Paintings.*
Tue., Dec. 23, 11 a.m.	Eng., Con. Furniture, etc.

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Thursday at 10.30 a.m.
Objects of art, Metalware, Porcelain, etc. View 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today.

Friday at 10 a.m.
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£3,000 negotiable for Bilingual Sec. with English mother tongue but fluent Italian, English-Italian shorthand. 30p. a day LVs.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY GERMAN NEEDED

Leading consulting engineers W.1 have partner-level opening for P.A., Sec. £2,800-£3,100. 4 weeks hols. and profit sharing scheme responsibilities include admin. and client liaison.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
53 Fleet St., E.C.4.
01-353 7696.

SECRETARY to £3,000

Excellent opportunity for young lady with a background in Property to join a West End Property Co. P.A. duties + client contact. Hours 10-4 considered.

623 9464.

CLAYMAN AGENCY.
31/33 High Holborn, W.C.1.

CHARITY BEGINS AT WORK

P.A., female, with skills secretarial sought by charity co. Must be articulate and cheerful, combined with concern for fellow man (and the odd OAP). Remuneration to £2,500 at 19 plus.

Rand, 491 3774

SECRETARY—£3,000! Real prospects for a career-minded secretary in go-ahead Fashion Fabric Co. Share of office or have your own. Lots of scope! Client Liaison. W.1. Brook Street Bureau 937 5115.

A BRIGHT GIRL to help in specialist shop in Chelsea. Good typing and shorthand and cheerful disposition. Hours and Salary negotiable. Closed Mon. Telephone: Steam Age, 01-584 4577.

ADAPTABLE SECRETARY with administrative ability needed for the principal social worker at family social work centre in West London. Tel. 749 1681.

EXCLUSIVE BELGRAVIA wine shippers need an able young secretary aged 20+, used to working at Director level. Excellent working conditions, hours 9.15-5. Salary £2,500 plus £1.50 LVs. Personal Services Ltd. 370 5067.

URGENT Sec. required, position W.1 Oil Co. £3,000. Refle Arch 235 0753, 486 5846, 405 1834.

PART-TIME MEDICAL SECRETARY for consultants in W.1. Good shorthand and typing essential. Excellent working conditions. Phone 935 7782.

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN company based in Knightsbridge requires an intelligent Receptionist/Secretary. Languages an advantage, typing and shorthand essential. Salary negotiable. Please phone Judy on 01-589 4511.

MONICA GROVE & ASSOC. 589 6601. Personnel Consultant specialising in the selection of uncommonly good staff.

SECRETARIAL

PARTNERS' SECRETARY RICHMOND

A position requiring commonsense, old-fashioned loyalty, and the ability to make a real contribution towards the smooth running of a busy South-West London professional firm.

Salary for an exceptional applicant would be not less than £3,500 p.a.

Apply

Box 1664 S, The Times

COSMETIC COMPANY £2,500 PLUS

International Cosmetic Company situated in Mayfair is looking for a bright and intelligent Secretary with good shorthand and typing. She must be well educated with 'O' levels and at least 2 'A' levels, fluent in French and English (English mother tongue). Free cosmetics. Age 25-28.

For further details please call Miss Davis or Mrs. Watkins on 629 0028 or 499 2411

THORNHILL MARY STUART BUREAU

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

For college leaver or young Secretary with good skills and education to work in the West End with a young friendly team.

The job is interesting, important, and you will be treated as an individual. Age 18 plus.
Salary £2,340

BERNADETTE OF BOND STREET
No 55—next door to Fenwicks
01-629 3069

REAL CAREER OPPORTUNITY £2,800

Enjoy a challenge! This go-ahead company offers a real opportunity to develop into an excellent position. Initially as P.A. to the top man you'll become conversant with all aspects of the business, liaise with clients, become involved in personnel, and really use your initiative.

Excellent benefits include £2,500 L.V.s—hours 9.15-5.00—don't delay call

Julia Smith on 588 0147
DRAKE PERSONNEL
80 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

SECRETARY FILM COMPANY £3,000

Never a dull moment when you join this lively company as secretary to one of the top men.

Your busy day will involve you in some correspondence, office administration, a little reception and simple bookkeeping.

You'll be part of a friendly, hectic team and have excellent opportunity for involvement. Interested?

Call Val Cook on 588 0147
DRAKE PERSONNEL
80 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

SECRETARY IN PERSONNEL TO £3,000

Age 20-30, very interesting and varied position working for one man. Lots of confidential personnel work involved.

No previous experience required. Average speed of 100-60 accepted.

Excellent prospects and conditions.

City
278 3233
KEYSTONE

SECRETARY

aged 20-25 required to complete the team of three assistants servicing our Council and Committee business.

Salary £2,450 to £2,800. Pension Scheme. Four weeks holiday. For further information telephone Miss S. M. Hurley, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2., on 242 0200, ext. 305.

CACTUS-EATER?

Come and try a glass of good wine! We are a small, friendly Wine Company, with modern offices at Olympia, seeking a bright and efficient Secretary to Managing Director. Aged 23-plus, with good shorthand/typing, she will enjoy lots of variety and parties in a small busy office. Salary around £2,500 negotiable. Please ring 01-603 6441.

ITALIAN/ENGLISH

Secretary with shorthand, English mother tongue, for City Bankers. £3,000 plus.

FRENCH/ENGLISH

Secretary with English shorthand for senior Stock Broking Partner in E.C.2. £3,000. Secretaries Plus, 15 New Street, E.C.2. 01-283 2146.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE PUBLIC RELATIONS CO. £2,600

Managing Director seeks top flight, young P.A./Secretary who enjoys administration and responsibility.

JAYGAR CAREERS
01-730 5148/9

DON'T READ ON unless you're a Young Director of W.1 Ad. Agy. screaming for PA/Sec. (with shorthand), to help him cope with his new business commitments: c. £3,500 + dress allowance. Gee's Recruitment, 499 6101/4.

REAL JOB SATISFACTION! Company Secretary is looking for a Sec/PA to get up her own information dept. £2,800 at 25. Ring Susie Dowlen, Career Clin. 12-14 New Bond St., W.1. 493 8982.

P.A./SECRETARY £3,000! If you're interested in fashion and seek a career rather than just a job here's your big chance! Flexible hours, free lunches, nice offices. Brook Street Bureau 629 1203.

YOUNG SECRETARY for Professional Organisation, Harley Street area. Good formal skills, lots of admin, organising annual conferences, attending committees, dealing general enquiries. Own office, pleasantly non-commercial. £2,500 p.a. + bonus & increase after 6 months. JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU. 589 8807.

GERMAN LANGUAGE? (1) Public Relations Secretary (Mayfair & Wimbledon offices), work-mix with chance to move to executive level. (2) Constructive assistance given to those seeking job in New Year. Tel: Richard Courtenay, Euro Consultants International, 75 Newman St., W1. 01-636 1354.

YOUNG PERSONNEL Officer in W.1 requires bright Admin Assistant. Must be smart, well spoken, enjoy meeting people and able to work on her own initiative and type. Age 20-30. Salary £2,500. Phone Marlene Lerner Personnel, 22 Baker Street, W.1. 935 3012/6250.

M. & J. PERSONNEL, The City, 80 Bishopsgate, 588 0174.

SECRETARIES

We need two secretaries, preferably in their early twenties, with previous office experience, to work in our Advertisement Departments.

They will have good secretarial skills, an assured manner and a good educational background.

We offer a starting salary of about £2,400 per annum (increase pending), four weeks and three days holiday rising to five weeks after one year, plus a number of fringe benefits.

Applications giving brief personal and career details should be sent so:—

Mr. Desmond Hayes,
Employment Manager,
TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED,
200 Gray's Inn Road,
London, W.C.1.

PROPERTY ABROAD

SMALL ISLAND

500 metres from the

COSTA SMERALDA

Buildings available for residential use, very exclusive private houses or clubs, in addition to restaurants, offices, docking and mooring facilities, swimming pool and fully equipped construction yard.

Complete selling price: Italian Lire 450 million

Enquiries to:

CASELLA POSTALE 54
07020 PALU (SASSARI)

MAYFAIR

Charming 1st floor flat with every modern amenity and many elegant features.

Bedroom en suite bath
Reception room, kitchen.
Lease 48 years.
Rent £100 p.a.
Service charge.
Price £30,000

Winkworth
48 CURZON STREET, 499 3121

MAYFAIR.—2 rooms, kitchen/bathroom, long lease, £50 p.a., £16,500.—Findhome, 370 4721.

WEST HAMPSTEAD.—Convenient for transport. Groomed flat. Kitchen, bathroom, storage heating, entryphone, Forecourt parking. Use of garden. £11,500. 624 6884.

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES PAST

SECRETARIES

هكذا من الأصل

Late Christmas Shopping

HELP OUT EYRE METHUEN LTD. this Christmas. Buy their two silly books by Monty Python.

Say It With Kippers. Send that special someone a box of herrings and "Monty Python's Big Red Book".

IS IT TRUE that "The Brand New Monty Python Papperbok" can be shredded up to give a really cool satisfying smoke? No it isn't but it makes a good present for sensitive spiritually inclined young people.

AGAN. A new game for decision makers. Serve your Christmas cheer from it. An excellent gift at £4.50. Personal shoppers only. Pastimes, 19 St. Christopher's Place, London, W1.

ALL THE MOST beautiful scarves are at Hermes. 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St., or Harrods. They're the most famous because they're still the best.

AT HERMES you will see the largest selection of exclusive ties. Hermes, 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St. or Harrods.

BALDWIN GRAND PIANO 5ft. mahogany, excellent condition, little used. £795 o.n.o. 01-[illegible]

CHAMPAGNE. 4 cases of Veuve Clicquot, 1973, £22 per case.—Tel. Woking 66135.

CLAVICHORD, 5 octaves, modern German. Sperrhake fo Passau. £850.—Ring Trowbridge (02214) 4769, eves.

DEBENHAMS GIFT TOKENS.—The perfect Christmas gift from your local Debenhams store. Business and incentive gifts. 01-499 6603.

DEEP-BUTTONED rust antique sofa, £250 o.n.o.—857 0954.

FOR SALE privately 5 beautiful new simulated fur coats worth £75 each, accept £25. 624 9515.

GIVE A HERMES WALLET in crocodile or French calf and you'll be warmly remembered for years, from 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St., or Harrods.

HERMES LUGGAGE is still in a class by itself; so is everything else at 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn Street, or Harrods.

IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT. Classic full-length straight back Ranch Mink Coat, dark brown, size 10, fit 5ft. 3in. to 5ft. 5in., hardly worn, cost nearly £2,000, will sell £950.—Tel. 834 3311.

JUMAR CAMERAS and Hi-Fi. Special Sony Centre. Bargain Xmas offers. 61 The Mall, Ealing, London. Tel. 567 6031.

METHUEN CHILDREN'S BOOKS have superbooks for superkids at super prices from 15p to £4.95. Dick Bruna, Winnie-the-Pooh, Babar, Tintin could solve the present problem.

WHEN YOU WANT the best for Christmas, come to 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St. or Harrods. Hermes, the most elegant shop in the world.

OLD MASTER DRAWINGS
(DUTCH & FLEMISH 17th C.)
AN IMPORTANT CHRISTMAS GIFT OF DISTINCTION FROM £500
ALAN JACOBS GALLERY
15 Motcomb St Belgrave Sq SW1
Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 Sat 9.30-1.00
235 5944

FLOWERS ARE THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT
Send fresh flowers to friends, clients or yourself.
From only 85p per week.
Delivery is free.
ORDER NOW for Xmas from
Pugh & Carr Flower Group
26 Gloucester Road, SW7
01-584 7181

GUCCI GIFTS . . .
"Quality is remembered long after price is forgotten."
172 New Bond Street, London, W.1.
01-629 2716/7

"JAWS"

Superb present. Tickets for Gala Charity Performance of "Jaws" at Plaza 1, Lower Regent St., on Tuesday, January 20th. Tickets £5, £3.75 or £2.50. The Younger Jewish National Fund. Phone 450 6161, ext. 314 (office hours) or 459 5055 (evenings).

THE EXECUTIVE'S NEWSLETTER

for the manager on the move. Annual subscriptions, £16. Send to Wainscourt Management Publications, 38 High St., Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

AT HERMES you will see the most elegant watches for ladies and gentlemen. Hermes, 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St., or Harrods.

NEW ZEALAND.—Lambskin rugs, white only, £10.45, from Waitcoola N.Z. Bookshop. Telephone 930 4587.

NORBURY PIANO CENTRE. We buy and sell all pianos. 764 4220.

RED FOX full length coat virtually new, size 12, £350; silver fox cape £85; black pony jacket £30; all in excellent condition.—583 6000, ext. 769 (day); 937 1099 (eves.).

THE BEST HANDBAGS are at Hermes, 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St., or Harrods. We have the finest crocodile, French calf and canvas bags in the world.

UNIQUE PRESENTS. Personalised 12in. x 9in. Jig-saw puzzles made from your own favourite colour photo. Just send colour negative and £5.95 inc. p. and p. —Games for Friends, Shaldwich, Faversham.

VISIT THE GAMES. Gallery for the best adult games in town. 166, Canongate, Royal Mile, Edinburgh.

WHEN YOU WANT THE BEST for Christmas come to 155 New Bond St., 52 Jermyn St., or Harrods. Hermes, the most elegant shop in the world.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

EXPERIENCED NANNY

Required on long term basis for well educated Saudi Arabian family, to look after a newly born baby. Travel involved.

Applicants over 30 years. Good salary.

Phone Miss Osborne 839 2888 (day) 937 4983 (eves).

AU PAIR BUREAU PICCADILLY offers best jobs London or abroad. Call 87 Regent St. W1. 930 4757.

ENERGETIC NANNY after Christmas, 2 friendly girls 6 and 3; mother at work (university teacher): own bed-sitting room; weekends free; £20-plus.—Pulney.—Mrs. Duffy, 789 2109.

HOUSEKEEPER. Lake District, for single gentleman. Separate unfurnished, 4-bedroom modernised house. Suit person with dependent(s) children (school age) welcome. References essential. Part-time help in garden advantageous. Acland, Stagshaw, Ambleside.

HOUSEKEEPER. St. John's Wood. Aged 30-45, to run the house and help with cooking. Working parents with children away at school and college. Living as one of the family. Own bed-sitting room. References essential. Please write with full resume to: Box 1537 S, The Times.

NANNIES temporary and permanent jobs everywhere. Nannies (Kensington) 27 Stratford Road, W.8. 937 2333/3299.

N.S.—Responsible person required to care for 10-year-old, weekdays during school hols. Terms negotiable.—Tel: 01-348 7584, after 6 p.m.

SKIING SEASON, Geneva, car driving, au pair, wanted by English family. 01-794 3173.

SUPER JOBS. Occasional/Permanent Nannies, 11 Beauchamp Pl., S.W.3. 584 0231/589 3368. Midlands branch: Partishall 636 (a.m.).

WANTED.—Male or female housekeeper to live in small Hampstead house. No children, just a busy executive. Own room, kitchen & bathroom. Simple cooking an advantage. Please reply sending details of experience and references.—Box 1899 S, The Times.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

MARRIED COUPLE

We are seeking a husband and wife team living in South-West London.

Duties to include housekeeping of 4 bedroomed company flat and chauffeuring various Rolls-Royce and Jensen, also duties of Butler.

Irregular working hours, permanent and very well paid for right couple. Company car.

Apply in writing initially to 188 Goddington Lane, Orpington, Kent BR6 9DZ.

ADAPTABLE COUPLE required for pleasant holiday property during owners absence abroad. Salary plus furnished house, could suit retired officer, start January until September, with prospect of further year. Reply with personal details to Manager, Silverstream Helland Bridge, Bodmin, Cornwall.

GENTLEMAN'S VALET required London. Good salary and conditions, to live out. Interviews London January. Reply Box 1367 S, The Times.

REQUIRED

SUPERB ROLLS CHAUFFEUR (Livery), exceptional character. What offers 1976. 589 9871.

DOMESTICS from Philippines specially arranged, experienced, recommended maids, housemen, couples, 2 years contract. 014 937 7000. New World Agy.

FROM PHILIPPINES, experienced domestic staff speedily arranged. Topair Agency. 01-857 2785.

GERMAN girl student, 23, English-speaking, would like to live with an English family and teach the children German (January/February-July/August, 1975). Box 1975 S, The Times.

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE ESTATE OF LOUISA HILL SMITH, deceased.

Pursuant to the interest of the Guaranty Trust Company of Canada, the Administrator of the Estate of Louisa Hill Smith, deceased, directing an inquiry to ascertain the persons entitled to share in the distribution of the estate of the abovenamed deceased, who died at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on the 21st day of August, A.D. 1972:

Who is believed to have been born in the area of Lambeth Church, London, England;

Who is believed to have moved to Canada in approximately 1938 where she resided at the City of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. That all persons CLAIMING to be next-of-kin of the said deceased or otherwise entitled to share in the distribution of her estate, must, on or before the 27th day of February, 1976, furnish to the undersigned their full names, addresses and descriptions, with full particulars of their relationship to the said deceased, and the grounds upon which they may base their claim;
2. That each claimant who does not reside in Saskatchewan must also furnish within the time above limited the name and address of the person in Saskatchewan to whom notices to such claimant may be sent;
3. That on the date last mentioned, the estate of the said deceased will be distributed amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard to the claims which have been duly filed, and no others.

Dated at the City of Regina the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, this 13th day of November, A.D. 1975.

GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF CANADA, 2020—11th Avenue, Regina, Sask.

Per: Administrators of the Estate of Louisa Hill Smith, deceased.

CHARITY COMMISSION

General Charity—ROSE MARY CRAWSHAY PRIZE for ENGLISH LITERATURE.

Scheme for the amendment of a previous Scheme.

Ref.: 268686-A1-L1.

The Charity Commissioners PROPOSE to ESTABLISH a SCHEME for this and other purposes. Copies of the proposed Scheme will be supplied on written request to the Charity Commission, 14 Ryder Street, London, S.W.1, quoting the reference above, and may also be seen at that address. Objections and suggestions may be sent to the Commissioners within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity—The METROPOLITAN'S FUND (Founded by the Will of the Right Reverend J. B. C. Weldon).

Scheme for the reconstruction of the body of trustees.

Ref.: 209416-A1-L1.

The Charity Commissioners PROPOSE to ESTABLISH a SCHEME for this and other purposes. Copies of the proposed Scheme will be supplied on written request to the Charity Commission, 14 Ryder Street, London, S.W.1, quoting the reference above, and may also be seen at that address. Objections and suggestions may be sent to the Commissioners within one month from today.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BETTING, GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT 1963

I, KEITH LEONARD THOMAS BLISS of Hanover House, Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2EN duly authorised in that behalf by S.P. Sports Limited, trading as Ladbrokes the Bookmakers hereby give notice that on the 15th day of December 1975 I made application to the Betting Licensing Committee for the Petty Sessional Division of Worthing in the County of West Sussex for the grant of a BETTING OFFICE LICENCE in respect of premises situate at 39 Broadwater Street West, Broadwater, Worthing.

Any person who desires to object to the grant of the said licence should send to the Clerk to the Betting Licensing Committee, The Law Courts, Christchurch Road, Worthing, West Sussex not later than the 31st day of December 1975 two copies of a brief statement in writing of the ground of his objection.

Dated this 15th day of December 1975.

K. L. T. BLISS

BETTING, GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT 1963

I, PATRICK DAVID CHURCHILL of Hanover House, Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2EN duly authorised in that behalf by Alax Parker Limited, trading as Ladbrokes the Bookmakers hereby give notice that on the 12th day of December 1975 I made application to the Betting Licensing Committee for the Petty Sessional Division of Margate in the County of Kent for the grant of a BETTING OFFICE LICENCE in respect of premises situate at Unit 8, 220/222 Northdown Road, Cliftonville, Kent.

Any person who desires to object to the grant of the said licence should send to the Clerk to the Betting Licensing Committee, The Court House, Cecil Square, Margate, Kent, not later than the 31st day of December 1975 two copies of a brief statement in writing of the ground of his objection.

Dated this 12th day of December 1975.

P. D. CHURCHILL

EDUCATIONAL

G.C.E., DEGREE & Professional exams. Tuition by post. Free prospectus. W. Milligan, M.A., Dept. AJ4, Wolsey Hall, Oxford OX2 6PR. Tel. 0865 54231.

MOTOR CARS

BMW 30 CSL N registration, metallic blue with dark blue upholstery, 9,500 miles. Immaculate condition, sports wheels, electric windows, stereo cassette player. £6,800 o.n.o. Telephone: 01-770 4398, before 10 am and after 4 pm.

JAGUAR E TYPE, 2+2, Series III, "L" reg. (Nov. '72), Light blue, immaculate, stereo, etc., full history (direct from well-known Kensington Jaguar garage) — £1,950. 01-603 7383 (home), 01-283 8111, ext. 269 (office).

ROVER 3½-LITRE COUPE, Zircon blue/silver birch, 46,000 miles. Good condition. Radio/8-track. MOT'd. £850 o.n.o. Tel. 078885 446.

B.M.W. SALES. Largest U.K. Stock of new cars. Ring Mr Edwards or Mr Barton, 01-568 9156.

MGB GT—MGB SPORTS. Triumph Spitfire—immediate delivery. Tanners of Fulham, 01-731 4281.

LEX FOR JAGUARS 01-902 8787. Lex for Daimlers 01-902 8787. Lex for Triumphs 01-902 8787. Lex for Rovers 01-902 8787.

NEW FIATS. All models during December at pre-increase prices. —Phone Normans, 01-584 6441/01-622 0042.

APRIL '73 AUSTIN 1275 GT. Red, 34,829 miles. Bargain £975. Berkeley Sq. Garages, 7 Berkeley Sq., W.1. 01-499 4343/458 4455.

VOLVO. New and used, wide selection models and colours, phone or come by S. G. Smith, 28 Dulwich Village, S.E.21. 01-693 0202.

MERCEDES-BENZ.—If you are considering any new model or wish to purchase or sell your low-mileage car, try Chris Streller at Goodlife Garage (Croydon) Ltd. 01-681 3881.

VOLVO, new and used; good selection late models.—Tamplins of Twickenham, 66 York St., Twickenham. 01-891 0211.

EUROCARS (LONDON) LTD. 1st reg'd May 1975. Citroen DS.23 Pallas EFI Manual, Metallic Beige Tholoner/Caramel Jersey. Fitted full air-conditioning, 5,000 miles. £3,195. 1st reg'd June 1975. Citroen DS.23 Pallas EFI Manual, Blue Lagune/Blue Jersey 7,000 miles. £3,995. 01-723 1821.

TRIUMPH 2000 MK II 1973(M) Automatic, 19,000 miles, power steering and brakes, immaculate, french blue, interior black. Trial anywhere within 100 miles London; owner going abroad. £1,650. Page, Liphook 722104.

1975 CITROEN GS PALACE. Metallic Green/Jersey, 1 owner, 7,000 miles. £1,895. Continental Car Centre, 01-959 8821.

MOTOR CARS

FERRARI 365 GT 2+2 1971

35,000 miles

Full M.O.T.

Immaculate condition throughout.

Must be sold. Offers invited over £4,000.

Exchange considered.

Tel. 021-443 2605

ALFETTA GT

July, 1975. 5,000 miles. Metallic blue, beige cloth upholstery. Stereo, radio and cassette player. As new.

£3,350

Tel. 236 6433 9.30-5.30.

COLLECTOR'S BARGAIN

Beautiful Austin 20/25 Doctor's coupe open tourer with dicky seat in concours condition, running perfectly, excellent tyres, upholstery, etc. Just completed tour of France. Normally £3,000, will sell at

£2,000

01-969 2625

LIGHTNING LOTUS

Lotus Elan + 2S, 130 1973 (L registration), green with black interior, 28,000 miles radio, stereo. Excellent condition. Full history from new. £1,995.

Phone: 024 533 351

280 SE MERCEDES

K registration in immaculate condition. Garage maintained. £2,800 o.n.o.

Tel. Andover 66304

WANTED

JAGUAR E Type, V12, 1975 model, wanted; must have low mileage. —Tel.: Henley-on-Thames 2851 or 01-897 9041, extn. 1 (office).

71-75 XJ6 wanted for cash.— Hamerian, 551 9853/5252, weekends Chelmsford 71940.

ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEY

1972 CORNICHE CONVERTIBLE, white. 839 7266.

SITUATIONS WANTED

COMMERCIAL PILOT, 22, seeks job in Arab world. P. Davies, 01-437 6090.

SPAIN. Ex woman journalist seeks job—export, P.R., secretary, business, teaching English, Driver, Spanish. Anything legal considered. Box 2011 S, The Times.

E.E.C. TRANSLATOR (from German/French) seeks post or freelance work London. 'Phone 326 0087.

SUPER DAUGHTER, 18, seeks interesting employment. Secretarial, cordon bleu, drives. 01-223 4861.

ATTRACTIVE, conscientious girl seeks interesting and challenging job. Cooking/Secretarial diplomas. 02-588 8245.

25-YEAR-OLD FEMALE exec. seeks interesting, responsible post. Experienced in selling and management. Clean driving licence.—Box 2048 S, The Times.

OWNER-DRIVER for hire. Mercedes 280 SE available for short or long distances. 584 9160.

FLAT SHARING

4TH MID 20's, share flat W. Kensington, £28 p.c.m. 385 3419.

GRADUATE, m. 26, seeks room in civilized flat/house, central London, 92-38441 ext. 139 day. 385 4057 eve.

FLAT SHARE. 213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people sharing.

FLAT MATES specialists. 313 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 589 5491.

N.W.3 FLAT. 4th girl, share room. £40 p.c.m.—586 6375 eves.

2ND PROFESSIONAL MALE, share lovely C.H. flat, Maida Vale. Colour T.V. Own double room. £16.50 p.w. 01-262 8384 or 340 2584.

LOOKING FOR OWN ROOM? Executive Flatsharers. 235 6188.

FREE SERVICE to landlords. Executive Flatsharers. 235 6188.

BARNES. One/two girls share luxurious flat. Reasonable rent. Tel: 878 2205, eves.

S.E.1 House. Girl, own room, C.H., 260 p.c.m. 928 3813 eves.

TWICKENHAM. Girl, 28+, share luxury house, all mod. cons., own room, £65 p.c.m.—898 0412 after 6.

MARBLE ARCH. Third person to share modern c.h. flat, own room. £18 p.w. incl. 402 4671 after 6.

BALCOMBE ST. Girls to share large room in luxury flat. £48 p.c.m. 262 4087 eves.

PUTNEY.—3rd girl, 20+, share large room, modern flat. £45 p.c.m. Phone 352 8562, after 7 p.m.

FINCHLEY, N.3.—2 prof. men, luxury single rooms, private house. C.H., h. & c., shower, service, continental breakfast, linen, TV inc. £59 or £61 p.c.m. 346 5636, after 6.

N.W.6.—Male 20s, own room. £10 p.w. Ring after 5 p.m. 794 7115.

2ND GIRL, 25+, to share Chelsea flat. Own room, c.h. £16 p.w. excl. Ring Marianne, 493 9736 day. 584 5949 eves.

GIRL, 25+, own room, luxury N.1 hse. £43 p.m. 607 0805 eves.

TUFNELL PARK.—Large room for 2 in a/c flat. Lounge/kitchen, bathroom, garden. £10 p.w. each. —485 0871, after 6.45.

W.4. 2nd Man own room. £47 p.c.m. 994 4772 eves.

FLAT SHARING

MARBLE ARCH. Lady to share quiet flat. £18. 262 7040.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL person to share fabulous house, Wandsworth. Own room, c.h., £13 p.w. inc. 261 0619 (office hours), 874 1267 (eves.).

BUSINESS GUY 31, seeks similar to share smart house (own room), W.2. Convenient tube. £15 p.w. plus share c.h. and electricity. Phone: 994 4073 after 7.30.

S.W.3.—2nd girl, own room. £15 p.w.—734 0030, ext. 224 (day).

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S.W.7.—Girl to share room. Smart mews house. £50 p.c.m. Ring 589 9427.

KENSINGTON, S.W.7.—Girl for spacious luxury C.H. flat, own room. £70 p.c.m.—589 4454.

S.W.5.—2 girls to share room in maisonette from 1st Jan., £42.50 each p.c.m.—589 2069 (office hours). 373 7059 (evenings).

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RENTALS

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(continued on page 24)

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THE TIMES

Broadcasting

Professional people. Lawyer dramatist John Mortimer makes the Old Bailey his setting for a satirical Play for Today with Leo McKern leading in it as a barrister there (BBC1 9.25). Kenneth Griffith, himself an actor, presents a portrait of Edmund Kean (ITV 10.30). At a Time Like This (BBC2 9.45) finds a professor of obstetrics criticizing the medical establishment. The Book Programme ponders the author of the year (BBC2 7.50). In the last of The Nearly Man Arthur Hopcraft's member of Parliament faces a political dilemma (ITV 9.0). Note too that there is nothing amateurish about the Russian gymnasts (BBC1 8.10).—L.B.

BBC 1

12.30 pm, Bilidowcar. 12.55, News. 1.00, Pebble Mill. 1.45-2.00, Barnaby. 3.43, Fanny Cradock Cooks for Christmas. 4.00, Play School. 4.25, Deputy Dawg. 4.30, Jackanory. 4.45, Babar. 5.05, John Craven. 5.15, Emu. 5.40, Magic Roundabout.
5.45 News. 6.00, Nationwide.
6.50 The *Invisible* Man.
7.40 Are You Being Served?
8.10 Gymnastics. USSR *World Cup* team in a special display.
9.00 News.
9.25 Leo McKern in Rumpole of the Bailey, by John Mortimer.
10.30 Film 75.
11.00 Tonight.
11.35 Weather.

Regional variations (BBC1): BBC WALES—12.30-12.55 pm, Transmitters Closedown. 6.00-6.50, Wales Today. Nationwide. 6.50-7.10, Heddiw. 7.10-7.40, Ar Safbwynt. 7.40-8.10, A Christmas Card from Wales. 8.10-8.15, Border Houses. 8.15-8.25, Plaid Cymru Party political broadcast. 10.30-11.00, Rugby: Glamorgan County v Australians, highlights. 11.35, News for Wales. SCOTLAND—12.30-12.55 pm, Transmitters Closedown. 6.00-6.50, Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 11.35, Scottish News Summary. NORTHERN IRELAND—12.30-12.55 pm, Transmitters Closedown. 6.00-6.50, Scene Around Six. Nationwide. 10.30-11.00, Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo, cantata. 11.35, Northern Ireland News Headlines. ENGLAND—10.30-11.00 pm, North: What a Way to Spend a Sunday. North-West: Nancy and the Pot Hunters. North-East: Tribute to Jack Robson. Midlands: A Four-letter Word—Work. West: Concert in Orleans. South-West: Peninsula. South: Freeman's Jazz. East: England's Nazareth.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 am, Play School. 3.00 pm, Parents and Children. 3.30-3.55, Images for Sale.
7.30 Newsday.
7.50 Book Programme, including Book of the Year.
8.15 Floodlit Rugby: The final: St Helens v Dewsbury.
9.00 The Musical Time Machine.
9.45 At a Time Like This, part 3: Patients are People.
10.35 The Old Grey Whistle Test.
11.15 Newsnight.
11.30-11.35, William Lucas reads "The Giraffes", by Roy Fuller.

BBC 2 WALES
8.15-8.25 pm, Plaid Cymru Party political broadcast.

Thames

10.00 am, Hammy Hamster. 10.15, Inner Space. 10.40, The Saint.* 11.30, Hugh MacDiarmid—a Poet and his Time. 12.00, Paperplay. 12.10 pm, Hickory House. 12.30, Regional Flavour. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Emmerdale Farm. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Couples. 3.00, Where on Earth. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.25, Look Alive. 4.50, Magpie. 5.20, Nanny and the Professor.
5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.30 Crossroads.
6.55 Film: Walk, Don't Run, with Cary Grant, Samantha Eggar, Jim Hutton.
9.00 The Nearly Man.
10.00 News.
10.30 Edmund Kean—the Sun's Bright Child, documentary.
11.40 Here We Go Again.
12.10 The Great Celestial Soap Opera, with Malcolm Muggeridge.

* Black and white.

ATV

10.40 am, *Survival.* 11.05, Air Display, Weston Hall, Shropshire. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Around the World in 80 Days. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, Cartoon. 7.10, Film, Who is the Black Dahlia? with Lucie Arnaz, Efrem Zimbalist, Jnr. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, A Present from the Past. 12.10 am, Father Paschal.

Granada

9.30 am, Alphabet Soup. 9.55, *Spiderman.* 10.15, Grenoble. 10.40, Film, Make Mine Laughs. 11.40, Cartoon. 11.45, Alister in Songland. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, What On Earth? 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.35, University Challenge. 7.00, Film. Burt Lancaster in The Crimson Pirate. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.30 am, Spyforce.

Southern

10.05 am, The Nature of Things. 10.30, Hammy Hamster. 10.40, Untamed World. 11.05, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Sinbad Junior. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 6.45, University Challenge. 7.15, Film Move Over, Darling, with Doris Day. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, My Name is Little Alan Price. 12.05 am, Southern News. 12.15, Weather. Guideline.

Scottish

11.00 am, More Power from Water. 11.20, Trafficopter. 11.30, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Housecall. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Babar. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Supersonic. 7.00, Love American Style. 7.10, Film, Blossoms in the Dust, with Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon. 9.00, Thames. 11.50, Late Call.

Westward

9.25 am, Inner Space. 9.50, Woody Woodpecker. 10.15, Shirley's World. 10.40, Riptide. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 5.50, News. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, ATV. 7.10, Film: A Clear and Present Danger, with Hal Holbrook, E. G. Marshall, Joseph Campanella, Jack Albertson, Pat Hingle. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, Westward News. 11.43, Faith for Life.

HTV

10.30 am, Hammy Hamster. 10.45, Technoflash. 11.10, Merrie Melodies. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Help! 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.01, Report West. 6.15, Report Wales. 6.30, Man About the House. 7.00, Film: The Lady Takes a Flyer, with Lana Turner, Jeff Chandler. 8.50, Plaid Cymru Party political broadcast. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, Gilbert and Sullivan: HMS Pinafore. 12.35 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.25-4.50, Fyny Pan'na. 6.01-6.15, Y Dydd. 6.30-7.00, Sale of the Century. 10.30-11.15, Dan Sylw. 11.15-11.30, O'r Wasg. 11.40, World in Action Special. 12.40, Weather. HTV WEST: As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, West Headlines. 6.15-6.30, Report West. 8.50-9.00, Smith and Friends.

Grampian

11.30 am, Thames. 1.20, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.10, The Brady Bunch. 6.35, ATV. 7.05, Film: The Silencers, with Dean Martin, Stella Stevens. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, Sing with Gina. 12.10 am, Prayers.

Anglia

11.30 am, Thames. 1.25 pm, Anglia News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Let's Face It. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 5.50, News. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.35, ATV. 7.15, Film: Incident on a Dark Street, with James Olson, David Canary. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, Reflection.

Yorkshire

11.00 am, Hammy Hamster. 11.10, Bat Man is the Boss. 11.35, Skippy. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Mr and Mrs. 2.00, Thames. 5.20, Emmerdale Farm. 5.50, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35, ATV. 7.15, Film: Take Her, She's Mine, with James Stewart, Sandra Dee, Audrey Meadows, Robert Morley. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.00, Chopper One.

Border

10.35 am, Boney. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, The Beachcombers. 5.50, News. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, ATV. 7.15, Film: The Greengage Summer, with Kenneth More, Susannah York, Danielle Darrieux. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, The Protectors. 12.05 am, Border News.

Ulster

11.30 am, Thames. 1.20 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, The Protectors. 5.50, News. 6.00, UTV Reports. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, The Ghost and Mrs Muir. 7.30, Film, The Left Hand of God, with Humphrey Bogart, Gene Tierney, Lee J. Cobb. 9.00, Thames. 11.40-12.10 am, UTV Profile.

Tyne Tees

10.55 am, Starting Point. 11.00, The Magic Pencil. 11.05, Inner Space. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Love American Style. 2.00, Thames. 5.20, Emmerdale Farm. 5.50, News. 6.00, Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.15, Film, Take Her, She's Mine. 9.00, Thames. 11.40, Greatest Fights of the Century, Burns v Moir. 11.50, Epilogue.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, DLT. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, Three in a Row. 7.30, Robin Richmond.† 8.02, Among Your Souvenirs.† 8.02, The Songwriters: Ray Noble.† 10.02, Ian Carmichael's Music night.† 11.00, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.

† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Simon Bates† (8.27, Racing bulletin). 9.02, Pete Murray† (10.30, Waggoners' Walk). 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Colin Berry (1,500 m). 12.00-12.06 am, News.

3

7.00 am, News. 7.05, Beethoven, Goldmark, Mozart.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Mozart, Strauss, Sibelius.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Palestrina.† 9.35, Malcolm Binns (Piano), Stanford, Liszt.† 10.25, Mozart, part 1.† 11.30, Reading. 11.35, Mozart, part 2.† 12.10 pm, Words. BBC Cardew Robinson. 12.15, BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, part 1: Chopin.† 1.00, News. 1.05, The Arts Worldwide. 1.20, Concert, part 2: Shostakovich.† 2.10, Music in our Time.† 3.15, Humfrey and Schutz.† 3.45, Lutoslawski.† 4.55, Jazz Today.† 5.25, Pied Piper.† 5.45, Homeward Bound.† 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued).† 6.30, Who Manages? 7.00, Teaching Adults to Read. 7.30, Music in Question.†

8.00, Festival Hall concert, part 1: Beethoven.† 8.40, Three English Childhoods, talk. 9.00, Concert, part 2: Schumann.† 9.50, Play: The Evening is Calm: Paal Brekke's poem sequences.† 10.25, Bartok, Kodaly and Vaughan Williams.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4

6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411. Parent and Pupil Power. 10.00, News. 10.05, From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Down Your Way. 11.45, John Ebdon. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Just a Minute. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Pride and Prejudice. 4.00, News. 4.05, Gardeners' Question Time. 4.35, Story: Drawn from Memory. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, My Word! 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News Desk. 7.30, Kaleidoscope. 8.00, Radio 3. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: The Little Ogleys. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.30, News. 11.51-11.54, Inshore forecast.

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"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!"—Romans 11: 33.

BIRTHS

BEER.—On December 12th, to Elizabeth (née Dawes) and Andrew Beer—a daughter (Rachel Mareen).
CARVER.—On December 11, at Wright [illegible], Ohio, to Elizabeth (née [illegible]) and Major Charles Carver, U.S.A.F.—a son.
COLBORN.—On 10th December, 1975, at Canterbury, to Lauren and [illegible] Colborn—a son.
CROWE.—On December 3rd, to Bryan and Virginia (née Wallis)—a second son (Charles Nicholas Walter).
DARLEWIS.—On 1st December, in Tehran, to [illegible]—a daughter (Samantha Jane), a sister for Justin and Andrew Michael.
GROSSMAN.—On December 10th, at the Westminster Wing, Middlesex Hospital, to Margaret (née Maresucco) and Richard—a son.
KAY.—On 13th December, 1975, to Lisa (née Connelly) and John Kay—a son, Benedict James.
PARSONS.—On December 13th, to Ann (née Rasmussen) and Richard—a daughter.
POOLEY.—On December 14th, to Elizabeth (née Argyle) and Peter—a son (George Peter John).
SCHOFIELD.—On 12 December, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Catherine (née Stewart) and Edward—a son (Nicholas John).
SHEPHARD.—On 13th December, at West Cheshire Hospital, Chester, to Mary Anne and Thomas—a son.
WRIGHT.—On 12th December, to Alison (née Lee) and David—a brother (Christopher) for Emil.

MARRIAGES

MAXWELL : EDGE-PARTINGTON.—On December 13th, at St. John's Church, MacLean, Washington, Virginia, Graham Maxwell to Deborah Edge-Partington.
REICHHOLD : FRASER.—On 13th December at Forest Row, Sussex, Richard Henry Reichhold of the Malt House, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon to Catherine Jane Fraser, of Broadoak Cottage, Hemenham, Berkshire.

DEATHS

ADAMS.—On December 13th, 1975, peacefully at home, Longcroft, Pinfarthings, Stroud, after a long illness so courageously borne, Doris, beloved wife of Bruce and devoted mother of Julia and Guy. Funeral service at Amberley, on Friday, December 19th, at 2.15 p.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the League of Friends Stroud Hospital, will be received by H. E. Beard Ltd., Funeral Directors, High Street, Stonehouse, Glos.
BAGGALLAY.—Lt.-Col. Richard Romer Claude Baggallay, D.S.O., M.C., Irish Guards (Rtd.), on December 12th, 1975, after a short illness. Cremation private, by request. No flowers.
BLOOM.—On 14th December, 1975, Clara, widow of John Bloom, peacefully at home in her 91st year. Beloved mother of Rosamund Fine and Madeline Stacker. Prayers at 23 Elsworthy Rd., N.W.3., evenings at 8.
BODY.—On December 13th, 1975, peacefully in her sleep at Dowsettleville Nursing Home, Southend-on-Sea, Ivy Body (née [illegible]), aged 91 years, widow of S. F. Body, M.P.S., F.S.M.C., beloved mother of Leslie, Andrew, and Geoffrey (deceased), grandmother of David and Andrew Body and Frances, James (née Derrey), and great grandmother to Marcus and Louise Body and Andrew James. Family flowers only. Funeral Wednesday, 17th December, 11.30 at the Southend-on-Sea Crematorium.
BRADFIELD.—On December 13th, Durley, Hampshire, Marjorie Elizabeth, died peacefully at the age of 82, the dearly loved daughter of J. P. Dickson, widow of John Ernest Bradfield, and mother of Bill and Hilda. Cremation, Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel, Bassett Green Road, Southampton, Friday, December 19th at 12 noon.
CLOWES.—On December 12th, 1975, Barbara Edith Clowes, formerly of Rosemead, Harwell, Oxon, in her 90th year.
COTES.—On December 13 at Friars Way, Patricia, elder daughter of Awdrey and the late John Beckingham, dear wife of John, mother of Peter, Lucy and Simon and to Peter's wife Alison. Much loved and in adversity an inspiration to many. Funeral private. Memorial service, 2 p.m., Saturday, January 10, at St Peter's Church, Dinas Powis and afterwards at Friars Way.
COWGILL.—On December 14th, Katherine (née Fogg-Elliott), peacefully, at Scole Nursing Home. Funeral service, White Colne, at 12 noon, Friday, 19th December.
COWLEY.—Richard Francis, on December 13th, suddenly, beloved husband of Mary and devoted father of [illegible]. Funeral private; memorial service in the New Year. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation.
CRAWFORD AND BALCARRES.—On Saturday, December 13th, 1975, at Balcarres, David, Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. Private cremation. Service at Episcopalian Church, Pittenweem, on Wednesday, December 17th, at 2.30 p.m. for family and neighbours.
CROFTON, HARRIETT (née Evans).—Peacefully, on December 13th, aged 71, at The Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Funeral service 12 noon at St John's Parish Church, Church Row, Hampstead N.W.3, on Thursday, December 18th. Flowers to Abernethy House, Mount Vernon, Hampstead N.W.3.
CUNDELL.—On December 13th, 1975, peacefully, at Stowlangtoft Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, Helena Alice, beloved wife of the late Edgar Cundell, C.B.E. Funeral service at Cambridge Crematorium on Friday 19th December at 3 p.m. Enquiries to L. Fulcher Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds, please (Tel. [illegible]).
DAVISON.—On December 13th, 1975, Jack Gunn, of Church Field, Fawley, Henley-on-Thames, beloved husband of Sheila and father of John and Jen. Private family funeral. Memorial service to be announced later.
DRURY.—On December 13th, peacefully in hospital, Dru, dear husband of Joan, of Corner Cottage, Ilmiston, in his 90th year. Funeral service at Ilmiston Church on Wednesday, December 17th, at 11.15 a.m. No flowers, please, but donations to the C.M.S., at his request.
FENN.—On December 13th, in hospital, Sister Mary Elizabeth, of May Cottage, Fairwarp, Uckfield.
FITZWILLIAM.—On 14th December, 1975, in hospital in Dublin, Olive Dorothea, widow of Peter 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, of Coollattin, Shillelagh, co Wicklow. Beloved mother of Juliet and grandmother of Nicholas. Funeral Service at Shillelagh Parish Church, Thursday, December 18th, at 2.30 p.m. Interment at Wentworth Parish Church, Yorkshire, 2.30 p.m., Monday December 22nd. No flowers, donations if wished to Cheshire Homes Foundation.
FRAMPTON.—On 13th December, 1975, Henry Frank Frampton, OBE, of 11 Devonshire Gardens, London, W.4. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium, 12.00 hrs. Friday, December 19th. No flowers, please, donations to The Hon. Treasurer, Dr Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.
FURSE.—On December 13, peacefully in her sleep, Emily Jessie (Timothy), aged 91, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother of Dorothy, Nicholas, Ann, Edmund, Richard and Ann-Marie. Funeral on Thursday, Dec. 18th, at 2.45 p.m. at St. John's Church, 1st Ave., Hove. Cut flowers only to Hanningtons, 2 Montpelier Road, Hove, or to the church.
GLYNN.—On December 13th, 1975, in hospital, fortified by the rites of Holy Mother Church, of 3 Dicconson Terrace, Lytham, Dr. John James Glynn, dearly loved husband of Suzanne, and dear father of Jacqui. Reception St. Peter's Church, Lytham, Thursday December 18th at 7.30 p.m. Requiem mass Friday, December 19th, at 10 a.m. prior to interment, Saltcotes Cemetery, Lytham. RIP. Inquiries J. & A. Porter. Tel. Lytham 5125.
GRAY.—On Sunday, December 14th, 1975, peacefully at his home, King's Field, Cambridge, James, beloved husband of Norah and dear father of Sally and Tony. Funeral service private. No flowers, please. Memorial service at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, on Saturday, January 31st, at 3 p.m.
HALLY.—On December 12, 1975, peacefully at Walton Hospital, George Hally, Knight of St John, late of Woodcotes, Burwood Park, Walton-on-Thames, husband of Nancy and father of Allan. Cremation private, no letters or flowers, by request.
HARMAN.—On 14th December, 1975, at his daughter's home in Downderry, Cornwall, in his 102nd year, George Harman, last surviving child of Canon and Mrs Samuel Harman, of Bath, cormack, co Cork, husband of the late Dido Harman, father of Terry and Elizabeth, and for over 40 years doctor to the district of St Germans, Cornwall. Funeral service at St Germans Church, on Thursday, 18th December, at 2 p.m. Family flowers only.
HARRISON.—LLB., EILEEN M., age 24, daughter of John and Dorothy Harrison, 1290, Leek Road, Abbey Hulton, Stoke-on-Trent, dearest sister of Kathleen and fiancée of Philip. Died early on 3rd December at City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent. Funeral, Abbey Hulton, 9.00 a.m. on 8th December.
HAWTON.—On December 14th, in University College Hospital, London, Hector, husband of Mary and father of Michael and John. Funeral at 11.30 a.m., Friday, December 19th, at Golders Green Crematorium. Cut flowers only to William Nodes, Crouch End Hill, London, N.8.
JOHNSON.—On December 14th Colonel Sir John Johnson, Bt., M.B.E., of Warrigal Farm, Dartford, 6th baronet of New York, husband of Rosemary, father of Peter, Wanda, and Sarah. Funeral at Eltham Crematorium at 2.40 on Friday, December 19th. No letters, no flowers.
KNOX.—On December 13th, 1975, John Benjamin, 6 Coulsdon Court Rd., Coulsdon, Surrey, beloved husband of Ina and father of Eleanor, Beulah, and Maureen. Funeral private.
KOTCHIE.—On December 13th, in Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford, John William James, of Arbour Lane, Wickham Bishops. Funeral service at St. Bartholomew's Church, Wickham Bishops, at 12 noon, Thursday, 18th December.
LAWS.—On December 14th, after a long illness borne with great courage, Madeline Grace Matthews Laws, beloved widow of Group Captain F. C. V. Laws, C.B., C.B.E., R.A.F. (retd), who died 27th October, 1975, and loved mother of Millicent Liston. Cremation private. No letters, or flowers, please, but if desired donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, 81 Queens Rd., London, S.W.19.
MALLINSON.—On December 13, 1975, at Bournemouth, Elsie Mary, dearly loved and loving wife of the late Dyson Mallinson and much loved mother of Diana. Funeral service, Wednesday, 17 December, at 3 p.m., at All Saints' Church, Branksome Park, Dorset. Flowers may be sent to Derrie-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth.
MAWHOOD-MOLIE (née Margaret Mary St John) at the National Hospital, Queens Sq., London, on Sunday. Requiem Mass on Friday, 19th December, at 2.30 p.m. at the Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Family, Vale Lane, Acton, London, W.3, followed by cremation at Amersham at 4 p.m. No letters or flowers, please. Donations to Multiple Sclerosis Society. Enquiries, Holmer Green 4264.
MAXWELL STUART.—On Dec. 13th, 1975, after a short illness, Philip Joseph Maxwell Stuart, aged 72 years, dearly loved brother of Effie. Requiem Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Friday, Dec. 19th, at 2 p.m. Flowers may be sent to F. A. Holland & Son, Terminus Road, Littlehampton. Telephone 3151.
MITCHELL-HEGGS.—On Monday, December 15th, Gordon Barrett, O.B.E., E.R.D., T.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., darling husband of Nora and father of Raymond. He died as he lived, simply, courageously and with great dignity. Cremation private, Friday, 19th December. Cut flowers family only, to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 723 3277, to be sent later to St. Mary's Hospital. A memorial service to be announced later. No letters, please.
MOLLE.—On December 14th, 1975, peacefully, in hospital, George William, B.Sc. (Eng.), M.I.E.E., C.Eng. Dear husband of Sylvia. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Friday, 19th December at 1 p.m.
MURRAY.—On December 14 1975, peacefully, in a nursing home, in Hove, in her 96th year, Molly Murray, formerly of F4 Albany, Piccadilly, London, widow of Dr. William Murray and dear mother of William, Margot and David, and grandmother of Joan, Malcolm and Wendell. Cremation private, family flowers only, please.
POPPLEWELL.—On Monday, 15th December, peacefully, at her home, 19, St Pauls' Road, Richmond, Surrey, Eileen Mary Louise Popplewell, aged 69 years, beloved mother of Richard and grandmother of James.
RAMSDELL.—On December 9th in the afternoon after spending the morning at work at the Old Vic, Roger Ramsdell. Funeral at Honor Oak Crematorium, Brenchley Gardens, Brockley, S.E.23, 11.40 a.m., Thursday, 18th December. No flowers, please. Family suggest a contribution to Actors Benevolent Fund.
ROBERTS.—On December 14, peacefully in hospital, Dr Lawrence O. Roberts, Beloved husband of Tertia and dearest father of Diana and David.
RUNACRES.—On 13th December, at 12 Manoel Road, Twickenham, Arthur Selwyn (Tony), in his 82nd year, husband of Sybil, brother of Lilian, father of Eric and Anthony. Cremation at Kingston Crematorium on Tuesday, 16th December at 1 p.m. No flowers. Donations to charity.
SCOTT.—On December 13th, 1975, at her home 160 Nacton Road, Ipswich, Brenda Violet, aged 71 years. Funeral service at St. Bartholomew's Church, Ipswich, on Friday, December 19th, at 3 p.m., followed by cremation. Cut flowers only may be sent to Singleton & Hastings, Funeral Service, Berners Street, Ipswich, or donations if desired may be sent to Dr. Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.
STERN.—On December 14th, in her 93rd year, peacefully, at home, Annie, mother of Walter, Ronald and Norah. Funeral private.
STEWART.—On 14th December, 1975, in hospital, George Gordon Stewart, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.F.C.M., late C.M.O.H. for Essex. Of Woodcroft Ridgeway, Hutton Mount, Brentwood, Essex, beloved husband of Joanna, darling father of Sally and dear grandpa of Christopher and Kim. Funeral Service at Brentwood Cathedral, Thursday, 18th December at 1.15 followed by interment at All Saints Church, Hutton. Family flowers only, please. No mourning.
SULLIVAN.—On 12th Dec. suddenly, at Crowborough Hospital, Errol, beloved husband of Nora and dearest father of Michael and Susan and father-in-law of Jennie. Funeral service at All Saints' Church, Crowborough, on Thursday, 18th December, at 10.45 a.m. Cremation private. Family flowers only. Donations to Crowborough Hospital.
SUSCHITZKY.—On December 14, after a short illness in hospital, Joseph Suschitzky. Cremation on Thursday, December 18 at 3.30 p.m., at Golders Green Crematorium. No flowers, please, but donations in his memory may be sent to Hammersmith Hospital, Ducane Road, London, W.12.
TESTER.—On Dec. 1st, 1975, in a nursing home, Leslie Tester, C.M.G., M.C., eldest son of the late William and Mary Tester, of Sellindge, Kent. Cremation took place at Tunbridge Wells.
UNWIN.—On 11 December, Olivia (née Rutherford), of Puddlemill Cottage, Wareham, adored wife, mother, grandmother, friend. Cremation private. Donations only for Christian Aid to F. G. Douch & Son, The Square, Wimborne. Eucharist followed by interment at St. John's, Okewood, Surrey, 3 p.m., Thursday, 18 December.
WALKER.—On 11th December, in hospital, Helene Doris Walker, wife of the late John Deverill Walker and mother of Tom and Andrew, formerly of Wysall, Nottingham and Brightwalton, Berkshire. Cut flowers only to T. Wicks & Son, 13 Sadler Street, Wells, Somerset, by 9 a.m. on Friday, 19th December, please.
WATT.—On December 13th, 1975, peacefully at home, Fir Tree House, Lavenham, Suffolk, John Millar Watt "Pop" of the Daily Sketch, aged 80 years. Service at St. Peter and St. Paul, Lavenham, on Thursday, 18th December, 12.45 p.m., followed by private cremation.
WELSH.—On December 13th, Dr Richard Welsh, much loved husband of Andy and father of Robin, Neville and Elizabeth. Service at Guildford Crematorium, Thursday, December 18th, at 3 p.m. Arrangements by Ayldin Funeral Service, Springfield Road, Guildford.
WILLIAMSON.—On December 13th at Moffat, Maurice Metcalfe, M.B.E., L.D.S. (Univ. Liverpool), formerly of Kenya, beloved husband of Tilly and a dear father and grandfather.
WILSON.—On Sunday, Dec 14th, peacefully, at his home, Woodlands Avenue, Hornchurch, William Arthur (Willie) Wilson, C.B.E., much loved husband of Cissie. Cremation at Upminster Crematorium on Thursday, 18th Dec. Flowers, or donations for Cancer Research to Frank Rivett & Sons, Funeral Service, 180 High Street, Hornchurch. 45024.
WINGATE.—On December 14th, peacefully, at a nursing home in Tunbridge Wells, Iris, eldest daughter of Sir Andrew Wingate, formerly on the staff of the Y.W.C.A. in Bombay and London, aged 87. Funeral at 3.50 on Friday, December 19th, at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Flowers to F. R. Hickmott & Son, 11 Grove Hill Rd., Tunbridge Wells.
WOOKEY.—On December 12, 1975, after a short illness, in her 87th year, Maud Lucy Wookey (née Tapson), widow of Frederick George Wookey, late of Imperial War Graves Commission, and for many years resident in northern France. Interment at North Sheen cemetery, Thursday, December 18th, 2 p.m. Flowers may be sent to Wimbledon Ltd., 72 Northfield Avenue, London, W.13.

IN MEMORIAM

CREGAN.—In loving memory of Joan Mary Cregan who died 16th December, 1974.
GUFDALLA.—To the dear memory of my husband Philip who died December 16th, 1944.
HALL, MAJOR A. C. S., remembering always my father with love.
WATTS, GEORGE ALBERT.—In treasured memory of our wonderful Father on his birthday. Never a day dawns without you are in my thoughts. Daddy darling.—Joyce.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BOOTHER. — Mrs. Gladys Boother and Tony acknowledge with thanks the many messages of sympathy and donations to charity named by them in respect of the sad loss they have sustained in the death of Ernest, a dear husband and father.
MRS. F. F. CUNLIFFE and family wish to thank relatives and friends for letters and cards, and beautiful floral tributes, received in their sad bereavement and a very special thanks to the family doctor and also the Metropolitan Police.

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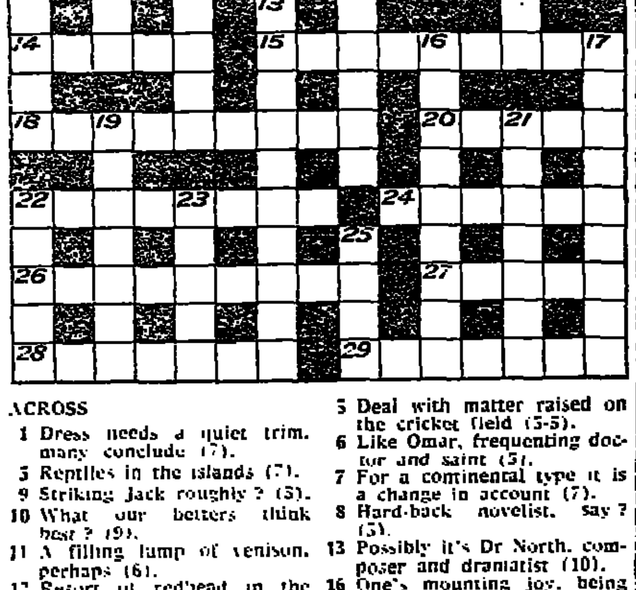
THE CREMATION SOCIETY of Gt. Britain organises an Annual Conference for anyone interested in Saving the Land for the Living. The 1976 Conference will be 6-8 July at Imperial Hotel, Torquay. You would be very welcome. Details: Woodcut House, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, Maidstone ME17 1XH.
EMBROIDERY in the 70's Exhibition of embroidery at Royal School of Needlework, 25 Princes Gate, London SW7. Mon. 15-Fri. 19 Dec. 10-5 p.m. Admission free.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS PRIVATE

A PROSPEROUS 1976 to patrons from the Parlour Quartet (Wires Aspidistra), London, N.W.3.
ADORACELLA.—My Most Beloved. Never forget last Christmas. Our love is as fresh today.—Your Person from Porlock.
DARLING A. Happy Christmas.—J.
DAVE/JASPER will not be sending cards this year and wishes all his friends a merry Christmas.

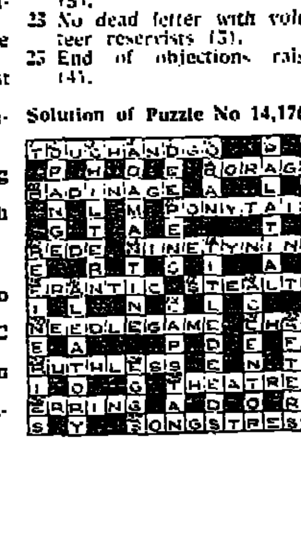
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,177



ACROSS
1 Dress needs a quiet trim, many conclude (7).
5 Reptiles in the islands (7).
9 Striking Jack roughly? (5).
10 What our betters think best? (9).
11 A filling lump of venison, perhaps (6).
12 Resort of redhead in the bay—no retiring type (8).
14 Without it Brown becomes someone very big (5).
15 Rash Scots rebuild in their beauty spot (9).
18 Related to a philosopher in China's capital? Well, sort of (9).
20 Depicted as returning northward (5).
22 Festival in which the wine flows? (4-4).
24 Like excuses made to East (6).
26 Act 8 parts including eccentric peer (9).
27 Theatre turns daily (5).
28 Flier has problem backing horse (7).
29 Might be charged with assault? (7).

DOWN
1 Indifferent, in a way, to call-up (9).
2 Result appears to goad TUC members (7).
3 Reserve shown in Crete on reforming church (9).
4 Room for all of the contents? (4).
5 Deal with matter raised on the cricket field (5-5).
6 Like Omar, frequenting doctor and saint (5).
7 For a continental type it is a change in account (7).
8 Hard-back novelist, say? (5).
13 Possibly it's Dr North, composer and dramatist (10).
16 One's mounting joy, being supplied with a car (9).
17 Lyric seen as genuinely revised (9).
19 Instructions followed before board meetings (7).
21 Sea-food, a contentious item Albert goes into (7).
22 Wives a murderer married (5).
23 No dead letter with volunteer reservists (5).
25 End of objections raised (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,176



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PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 23

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS PRIVATE

EDGAR WAGNER wishes his friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As 2nd class postage has risen by over 85% in less than 12 months, he is not sending cards.
GEORGES PAPPADAKIS greets all of his friends with warmest wishes of the Season and requests them to remember him at this time by a donation to The Mentally Handicapped at C.A.R.E., Burton Rough, Petworth, Sussex.
GERRY AND DAVID EDWARDS of Ruiru, Kenya, wish all their friends a Happy Xmas and Prosperous 1976.
GUNNER & BABS POTTER will not be sending cards this year but wish all their friends A Merry Xmas and A Happy New Year.
KEITH ELLIOTT wishes both his friends a good Christmas and a better new year.
LYNNE & KEN PRANGNELL greet family and friends at Xmas.
MISS EVELYN DAY of 49 Hornton Street, W.8, sends best wishes for a merry Christmas and happy New Year to all her friends.
MR. AND MRS. ALEC BADENOCH and family wish their friends a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.
MUM, DAD & LOUISE.—Happy Christmas & Love from Gordon & Brian. See you soon.
SIR FRANCIS and Lady Cook wish all their friends a very happy Christmas and New Year.
TONY SIMONDS sends from Cyprus best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. His address book was lost when Boghazi was destroyed and he would therefore be grateful to have the addresses of all he entertained there. Please write care of The Headmaster, The English School, Nicosia.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TRADE

LES AMBASSADEURS
The Mills family committee and Club Staff wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BALLOON.—Latest maternity fashions from Paris. Wish all their customers a Happy Christmas. 77 Walton St., S.W.3. 589 3131.
BEE PROFESSIONAL, legal staff agency wish all clients seasonal greetings—[illegible].
BRIEF ENCOUNTER wishes all clients & friends Sea. Greetings.
BUSINESS ADVISORY SERVICES, 3 Rue Pierre-Fatio: 1204 Geneva, send clients worldwide Seasons Greetings.
COLLET'S Chinese bookshop, wish all customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
JANE CROSTHWAITE Recruitment, of 22 Beauchamp Place, S.W.3, wish all their clients a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
PANACHE, of Beauchamp Place, wish all their customers and friends a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.
SEASONS GREETINGS from Villa Flight to all our clients.
THE ALANGATE GROUP Specialist Employment Agencies wish their clients all the best for the New Year 405 7201.
TRAVEL CARE wish all their clients a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to serving you all in 1976.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP THE SURGEONS of tomorrow. The maintenance of Britain's great tradition of safe surgery depends increasingly on the strength and endeavours of the Royal College of Surgeons of England as an independent professional body, dedicated to education and research. The College's work both in the training of young surgeons, anaesthetists and dentists and in the pursuit of research relevant to their practice is designed to be of direct and practical benefit to patients. To continue this vital work we urgently need funds. Your donation will be gratefully accepted and carefully used. Gifts covenants and legacies should be sent for the College's general Charitable purposes to Appeal Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.
DOES YOUR SON seek a Career? See Youth (16-18) in General Appointments Column.
MUSIC.—Sheet music scores and books wanted to raise money for Amnesty International. Will buy but donations welcomed.—Phone 01-201 3620.
MARRIED COUPLE living S.W. London.—See Domestic Sits.
SHOW A LITTLE CONCERN to those left behind in broken and shattered homes. Unpaid bills, the threat of eviction and little money makes their lives intolerable. Show you care by sending what you can to: Church Army (T31), C.S.C. House, North Circular Rd., N.W.10, or credit transfer Barclay's Bank, Cavendish Square, [illegible].
BATTERED WOMEN, desperately need refuges this Christmas. Camden Women's Aid appeals for donations for The National Women's Aid Federation, 51 Chapham Road, S.W.8.
THE TIMES wanted urgently—See Sales & Wanted.
TREES FOR MIDDLE EAST.—See Business to Business.
TALL, blond young man, wearing navy pin-stripe suit, navy greatcoat, travelling TWA, Heathrow to JFK, March 22, 1975, please contact Box 1974 S, The Times.
ADAPTABLE COUPLE required for pleasant holiday property. See Domestic Situations.
DR. CHRIS L. (ORTHOPAEDIC ?).—Needle—dead—F.T.S.—1290—S.O.T. P. needs surname and address. C/o N's address—urgent. P.
WILL P. G. SNAITH please contact the 2nd Watch.—D.C.
N. ITALY.—EFL Teachers required. See General Vacancies.
SAINT JUDE the Patron Saint of Hopeless Cases who has never refused our prayers and supplications, accept our most grateful thanks for once again helping us in our dire necessity.—Elmic.
GROWING EXOTIC FRUIT in the U.K.? We should be interested to hear from anyone who has managed to produce a fruiting plant in a greenhouse of Avocado, banana, Cape gooseberry, lemon, kumquat, mango, pineapple, etc.—Write Box 1961 S, The Times.
IS YOUR FLAIR being used? If not see General Vacancies page.
GLCABS require Training Officer.—See General Vacs.

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WHEATLEY.—Will Thomas Wheatley, the son of the late James and Florence Wheatley and last heard of in the Surrey area in 1934 or anyone knowing of his present whereabouts please communicate with S. Eversley & Co., Solicitors, of 272 6 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

BMW 30 CSI. N registration.—See Motor Cars.
SPAIN. English woman wants to work there. See Situations Wanted.
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ST. DUNSTANS.—Matron, Ovingdean, Sussex.—See Gen. Appts.
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TO WALTER ARTHUR CHARLES DICKETTS or anyone knowing of his whereabouts, please communicate Re Adair Hobson, via Box 1941 S, The Times.
REDECORATING OR ALTERATIONS? See Business to Business.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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(continued on page 23)

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE COMPETITION NO. 20 WINNERS

Miss J. Parry, Kings Worthy, Hampshire.	Mr. K. G. Page, Seaford, Sussex.	Mrs. D. Shone, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex.

We apologize for the unfortunate omission of the answers to questions 2 and 3 from the guide. Our congratulations to all the competitors who nevertheless succeeded in tracing the right answers in the previous day's guide, but the solution to questions 2 and 3 were waived in judging this competition.

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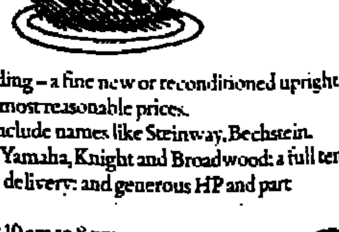

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